

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

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No. 1935.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1854.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1854.

REVIEWS.

Poems. By Matthew Arnold. A new edition. Longman and Co.

AMONG critics there has always existed a feud as to the relative merits of what they are pleased to call the artificial and natural schools of poetry. The distinction between the two has seldom been clearly stated, and indeed there can be no well defined limits. According as art or genius appear the most conspicuous, the poet may be classed under either school. Thus Pope in most of his poetry is more remarkable for the force and propriety of his diction than for the originality of his thought or the brilliancy of his fancy, and hence he is often named as a thoroughly artificial poet, and as such he is counted less than the least in the natural school. But in the case of Pope, as Byron remarked, "his very harmony has raised a vulgar cant against him; because his versification is perfect, it is asserted that it is his only perfection; because his truths are so clear, it is asserted that he has no invention; and because he is always intelligible, it is taken for granted that he has no genius." We referred to this subject in noticing Professor Aytoun's lectures on poetry, and we protested against the undue praise bestowed upon what is called nature and genius as distinguished from taste and art. The enthusiasm expressed by half-educated and injudicious critics with regard to the works of Coleridge, Wordsworth, Shelley, Keats, and other modern poets, was excited quite as much by the irregularities as by the beauties of their works. Although the fever of admiration of whatever is uncouth and abnormal in poetry has somewhat passed away since Jeffrey, in the 'Edinburgh Review,' manfully defended the principles of good taste and sound sense against all innovators, there is still a tendency, chiefly among the young, to admire what is careless, and sometimes what is silly, as natural, and to despise whatever bears mark of study and care as artificial. Against that tendency Mr. Arnold directs his efforts, both by argument and example, in this volume of poetry. In a preliminary dissertation he urges the study of the classic poets, chiefly those of antiquity. Even when the superiority of the great names of recent times is beyond question, still some excuse is found for the deeper study of the old classics. Thus with regard to Shakspeare, 'the greatest of all poetical names,' as the author admits, the influence of his works is described as rather hurtful than otherwise to the cultivation of poetic art:—

"I will venture to express a doubt, whether the influence of his works, excellent and fruitful for the readers of poetry, for the great majority, has been of unmixed advantage to the writers of it. Shakspeare indeed chose excellent subjects; the world could afford no better than *Macbeth*, or *Romeo and Juliet*, or *Othello*; he had no theory respecting the necessity of choosing subjects of present import, or the paramount interest attaching to allegories of the state of one's own mind: like all great poets, he knew well what constituted a poetical action: like them, wherever he found such an action, he took it; like them, too, he found his best in past times. But to these general characteristics of all great poets he added a special one of his own; a gift—namely, of happy, abundant, and ingenious expression, eminent and unrivalled: so eminent as irresistibly to strike the attention first in him, and even to throw into comparative shade his other excellences as a poet. Here has been the mischief. These other excel-

lences were his fundamental excellences as a poet; what distinguishes the artist from the mere amateur, says Goethe, is *Architectonic* in the highest sense; that power of execution, which creates, forms, and constitutes: not the profoundness of single thoughts, not the richness of imagery, not the abundance of illustration. But these attractive accessories of a poetical work being more easily seized than the spirit of the whole, and their accessories being possessed by Shakspeare in an unequal degree, a young writer having recourse to Shakspeare as his model runs great risk of being vanquished and absorbed by them, and, in consequence, of reproducing, according to the measure of his power, these, and these alone. Of this preponderating quality of Shakspeare's genius, accordingly, almost the whole of modern English poetry has, it appears to me, felt the influence. To the exclusive attention on the part of his imitators to this it is in a great degree owing, that of the majority of modern poetical works the details alone are valuable, the composition worthless."

As there is a foundation of truth in Mr. Arnold's remarks, we leave without dispute his counsels as to the study of the poetic models of classic antiquity. Certainly the tendency among the poets of the present day, such as they are, is to run wild in what they consider the natural freedom of genius, without being subject to the discipline of education and art:—

"Clearness of arrangement, rigour of development, simplicity of style—these may to a certain extent be learned; and these may, I am convinced, be learned best from the ancients, who although infinitely less suggestive than Shakspeare, are thus, to the artist, more instructive.

"What then, it will be asked, are the ancients to be our sole models? the ancients with their comparatively narrow range of experience, and their widely different circumstances? Not, certainly, that which is narrow in the ancients, nor that in which we can no longer sympathize. An action like the action of the *Antigone* of Sophocles, which turns upon the conflict between the heroine's duty to her brother's corpse and that to the laws of her country, is no longer one in which it is possible that we should feel a deep interest. I am speaking too, it will be remembered, not of the best sources of intellectual stimulus for the general reader, but of the best models of instruction for the individual writer. This last may certainly learn of the ancients, better than anywhere else, three things which it is vitally important for him to know:—the all-importance of the choice of a subject; the necessity of accurate construction; and the subordinate character of expression. He will learn from them how unspeakably superior is the effect of the one moral impression left by a great action treated as a whole, to the effect produced by the most striking single thought or by the happiest image. As he penetrates into the spirit of the great classical works, as he becomes gradually aware of their intense significance, their noble simplicity, and their calm pathos, he will be convinced that it is this effect, unity and profoundness of moral impression, at which the ancient Poets aimed: that it is this which constitutes the grandeur of their works, and which makes them immortal. He will desire to direct his own efforts towards producing the same effect. Above all, he will deliver himself from the jargon of modern criticism, and escape the danger of producing poetical works conceived in the spirit of the passing time, and which partake of its transitoriness."

The general conclusion of the discourse on poetry is thus stated,—

"Two kinds of *dilettanti*, says Goethe, there are in poetry: he who neglects the indispensable mechanical part, and thinks he has done enough if he shows spirituality and feeling; and he who seeks to arrive at poetry merely by mechanism, in which he can acquire an artisan's readiness, and is without soul and matter. And he adds, that the first does most harm to Art, and the last to him-

self. If we must be *dilettanti*: if it is impossible for us, under the circumstances amidst which we live, to think clearly, to feel nobly, and to delineate firmly: if we cannot attain to the mastery of the great artists—let us, at least, have so much respect for our Art as to prefer it to ourselves: let us not bewilder our successors: let us transmit to them the practice of Poetry, with its boundaries and wholesome regulative laws, under which excellent works may again, perhaps, at some future time, be produced, not yet fallen into oblivion through our neglect, not yet condemned and cancelled by the influence of their eternal enemy, Caprice."

Those who most clearly state the principles of an art do not necessarily excel in its practice. But some of the poems of Mr. Arnold are fine examples of classic elegance and taste. The fault of the author, so far as his own popularity is concerned, is that he aims at retaining the subjects and the diction of the ancient writers, as well as the artistic merits in which they excelled. Hence it can only be by a limited circle of scholars that these poems can be appreciated. We take as an instance the Ode to Philomela:—

"Hark! ah, the Nightingale!
The tawny-throated!
Hark! from that moonlit cedar what a burst!
What triumph! hark—what pain!
"O Wanderer from a Grecian shore,
Still, after many years, in distant lands,
Still nourishing in thy bewilder'd brain
That wild, unquenched, deep-sunken, old-world pain—
Sore, will it never heal?
And can this fragrant lawn
With its cool trees, and night,
And the sweet, tranquil Thames,
And moonshine, and the dew,
To thy rack'd heart and brain
Afford no balm?
Dost thou to-night behold
Here, through the moonlight on this English grass,
The unfriendly palace in the Thracian wild?
Dost thou again perceive
With hot cheeks and sear'd eyes
The too clear web, and thy dumb Sister's shame?
Dost thou once more assay
Thy flight, and feel come over thee,
Poor Fugitive, the feathery change
Once more, and once more seem to make resound
With love and hate, triumph and agony,
Lone Daulis, and the high Cephissian vale?
Listen, Eugenia—
How thick the bursts come crowding through the leaves!
Again—thou hearest!
Eternal Passion!
Eternal Pain!"

Simple as is the subject, and well known to every scholar the allusions of these lines, their points of beauty are lost to the majority of readers without explanatory notes. Apart from the absence of rhyme, they have not the self-interpreting light which commends to every reader, learned or unlearned, such an ode as Michael Bruce's to the English bird of spring. Mr. Arnold will probably say that popular education ought to be such as to appreciate classical as well as natural allusions, and as we agree with him in wishing that it were so, we forbear from further comment on the subject. One of the most finished poems in the volume is the legend of Mycerinus, of whom Herodotus has recorded this notice. "After Chephren, Mycerinus, the son of Cheops, reigned over Egypt. He abhorred his father's courses, and judged his subjects more justly than any of their kings had done. To him there came an oracle from the city of Buto, to the effect that he was to live six years longer, and to die in the seventh year." Mr. Arnold represents Mycerinus as struck with the injustice of this decree, and resolving to spend the brief allotted time of his life in pleasures and revelry. The king thus speaks of the oracle, and declares his purpose:—

"Not by the justice that my father spurn'd,
Not for the thousands whom my father slew,
Altars unfed and temples overturn'd,
Cold hearts and thankless tongues, where thanks were due;
Fell this late voice from lips that cannot lie,
Stern sentence of the Powers of Destiny,

"I will unfold my sentence and my crime,
My crime, that, rapt in reverential awe,
I state obedient, in the fiery prime
Of youth, self-govern'd, at the feet of Law;
Ennobling this dull pomp, the life of kings,
By contemplation of diviner things.

"My father lov'd injustice, and liv'd long;
Crown'd with grey hairs he died, and full of sway.
I lov'd the good he scorn'd, and hated wrong:
The Gods declare my recompense to-day.
I look'd for life more lasting, rule more high;
And when six years are measur'd, lo, I die!

"Yet surely, O my people, did I deem
Man's justice from the all-just Gods was given:
A light that from some upper fount did beam,
Some better archetype, whose seat was heaven;
A light that, shining from the blest abodes,
Did shadow somewhat of the life of Gods.

"Mere phantoms of man's self-tormenting heart,
Which on the sweets that woo it dares not feed:
Vain dreams, that quench our pleasures, then depart,
When the dup'd soul, self-master'd, claims its meed:
When, on the strenuous just man, Heaven bestows,
Crown of his struggling life, an unjust close.

"Seems it so light a thing then, an unjost Powers,
To spurn man's common lure, life's pleasant things?
Seems there no joy in dances crown'd with flowers,
Love, free to range, and regal banquetings?
Bend ye on these, indeed, an unmov'd eye,
Not Gods but ghosts, in frozen apathy?

"Or is it that some Power, too wise, too strong,
Even for yourselves to conquer or beguile,
Whirls earth, and heaven, and men, and gods along,
Like the broad rushing of the insured Nile?
And the great powers we serve, themselves may be
Slaves of a tyrannous Necessity?

"Or in mid-heaven, perhaps, your golden ears,
Where earthly voice climbs never, wing their flight,
And in wild hunt, through many tracts of stars,
Sweep in the sounding stillness of the night?
Or in deaf ease, on thrones of dazzling sleep,
Drinking deep draughts of joy, ye dwell serene?

"Oh, wherefore cheat our youth, if thus it be,
Of one short joy, one lust, one pleasant dream?
Stringing vain words of powers we cannot see,
Blind divinations of a will supreme;
Lost labour: when the circumstance gleam
But hides, if Gods, Gods careless of our doom?

"The rest I give to joy. Even while I speak
My sad runs short; and as you star-shot ray,
Hemm'd by two banks of cloud, peers pale and weak,
Now, as the barrier closes, dies away;
Even so do past and future intertwine,
Blotting this six years' space, which yet is mine."

The scenes of revelry are then described,
with the probable thoughts and feelings of
the king, the poem thus gloomily ending:—

"So six long years he revell'd, night and day;
And when the mirth wax'd loudest, with dull sound
Sometimes from the grove's centre echoes came,
To tell his wondering people of their king;
In the still night, across the steaming flats,
Mix'd with the murmur of the moving Nile."

Of the few poems on modern subjects the
best is entitled *The Scholar Gipsy*, founded
on a story recorded by Glanvil, in 1661, of an
Oxford student, who left the university and
joined himself to a band of gipsies:—

"At some lone homestead in the Cumner hills,
Where at her open door the housewife dawns,
Thou hast been seen, or hanging on a gate
To watch the threshers in the mossy barns,
Children who early range these slopes and late
For crasses from the rills,
Have known thee watching, all an April day,
The springing pastures and the feeding kine;
And mark'd thee, when the stars come out and shine,
Through the long dewy grass move slow away.

"In Autumn, on the skirts of Bagley wood,
Where most the Gipsies by the turf-edg'd way
Pitch their smok'd tents, and every bush you see
With scarlet patches tag'd and shreds of grey,
Above the forest ground call'd Thessaly—
The blackbird picking food
Sees thee, nor stops his nasal, nor fears at all;
So often has he known thee past him stray
Rapt, twirling in thy hand a wither'd spray,
And waiting for the spark from Heaven to fall.

"And once, in winter, on the causeway chill
Where home through flooded fields foot-travellers go,
Have I not pass'd thee on the wooden bridge
Wrapt in thy cloak and battling with the snow,
Thy face towards Hinksey and its wintry ridge?
And thou hast climb'd the hill,
And gain'd the white brow of the Cumner range,
Turn'd once to watch, while thick the snow-flakes fall,
The line of festal light in Christ-Church hall—
Then sought thy straw in some sequester'd grange."

The poet almost sympathises with the wild
freedom of the wanderer, compared with the
toilsome care of those left behind:—

"For early didst thou leave the world, with powers
Fresh, undiverted to the world without,
Firm to their mark, not spent on other things;
Free from the sick fatigue, the languid doubt,
Which much to have tried, in much been baffled, brings,
O Life unlike to ours!

Who fluctuate idly without term or scope,
Of whom each strives, nor knows for what he strives,
And each half-lives a hundred different lives;
Who wait like thee, but not, like thee, in hope.

"Thou waitest for the spark from Heaven: and we,
Light half-believers of our casual creeds,
Who never deeply felt, nor clearly will'd,
Whose insight never has borne fruit in deeds,
Whose vague resolves have never been fulfill'd:
For whom each year we see
Breeds new beginnings, disappointments new;
Who hesitate and falter life away,
And lose to-morrow the ground won to-day—
Ah, do not we, Wanderer, await it too?"

After the passage already quoted as to the
influence of Shakspeare on the art of poetry,
the reader will be pleased with the following
sonnet, in which his mysterious greatness is
described:—

"SHAKSPEARE.

"Others abide our question. Thou art free.
We ask and ask: Thou smilest and art still,
Out-topping knowledge. For the loftiest hath
That to the stars uncrowns his majesty,
Planting his steadfast footsteps in the sea,
Making the Heaven of Heavens his dwelling-place,
Spares but the cloudy border of his base
To the fold's searching of mortality:
And thou, who didst the stars and sunbeams know,
Self-school'd, self-scann'd, self-honour'd, self-secure
Didst walk on Earth unguess'd at. Better so!
All pains the immortal spirit must endure,
All weakness that impairs, all griefs that bow,
Find their sole voice in that victorious brow."

Mr. Arnold has already published anonymously
two volumes of poetry, the best pieces
of which are included in the present collection.
We have quoted enough to show an independ-
ence of thought and an elegance of taste that
raise the author far above the average verse
writers of the day, while the introductory dis-
sertation deserves the study of all aspirants to
poetic fame.

*Our Cruise in the Undine: the Journal of an
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France, Baden, Rhenish Bavaria, Prussia,
and Belgium.* By the Captain. J. W.
Parker and Son.

If this book lacks the originality of the first
record of an expedition of the kind, it is quite
as entertaining as 'The Log of the Water-
Lily,' noticed by us last year ('L. G.', 1853,
p. 58). Three enterprising young English-
men, in a light pair-oar, made an adventurous
trip last summer on the Seine, the French
canals, and down the Rhine; and their
captain has transferred to his journal much of
the light-hearted gaiety and stirring excite-
ment with which the voyage must have been
made. Formal descriptions of the countries
passed through are wisely eschewed, the
author chiefly confining himself to notices of
personal adventure. The journey was full of
incident, sometimes not without peril, as in
the following day's voyage on the Rhine:—

"It was necessary to keep a continual look-out
for 'breakers ahead,' and we were every moment
obliged to alter the direction of our course, there
being no main channel. Now we are sweeping
down a rapid so shallow that we can see the bottom,
and rush past the trunk of an old tree, which itself,
far from appearing to be stationary, seems as if it
was being pulled up against the stream by some
invisible power,—now we reach the end of the
shallow, and the water is boiling and bubbling
about us in all directions, and the sharp crested
little waves come rattling against the sides of the
boat like so many undertakers at work. And
again, at another time, when we got into rather
deeper water where there was less turmoil, we were
able to paddle or even float with the stream.

"It was on such a bit of water as this that we
were quietly resting on our oars, and enjoying our

pipes, the Doctor, as usual, when there was no
work to be done, lying at full length in the bows,
and the Professor puzzling his brains about the
different changes of money we should in all prob-
ability meet with, when the Captain, suddenly
hearing a much louder noise than was at all ordi-
nary, and standing up, discovered that we were
making straight away for a waterfall, about a half
mile distant. 'Oars, all!' he cries; 'put your
backs into it, and keep her steady whatever you
do;' for he was obliged to stand up, that looking
well a-head he might determine what course to fol-
low. So, pulling the rudder hard up, and steering
for the opposite bank, we managed, after a few
dozen strokes, hard pulling, to avoid the fall;
although, even then, we were not the boat's length
from one end of it. As we swept down another
channel, and got a full view of the danger we had
escaped, the Professor could not refrain from a
shout of mingled pleasure and surprise. Had the
boat gone over, she must have been inevitably
smashed to pieces, for the fall was one of about
ten feet, and there was an immense body of water
rushing over at a fearful rate.

"The Coxswain was often greatly puzzled to
decide which stream to follow, or on which side of
an island or sandbank he should steer; and down
about the mouth of the Elz, a small river which
runs from Freyburg, the shallows were frequent,
so that we seemed quite to have entered a maze of
them. We were in a fair direction for avoiding
one of these shallows, and the Coxswain had, as he
thought, a clear run, when another, at a small
distance further on, made its appearance; for a
moment, he could not think what to be at; there
was not space to pull across it as he had managed
the first, for had this been attempted, we should
have been carried upon the shallow 'broad-side on,'
and rolled over and over like a barrel, whilst it
would have been madness to have attempted the
sheer impossibility of pulling against the stream.
So, making the best of a bad matter, he followed
the counsel of the Cornishman, who, seeing the
lamps of a mail-coach coming down hill at a rapid
pace, while he in his single gig was ascending, and
fancying them both dangerous looking articles,
thought the best plan would be 'to drive right
'twix 'em,' which we did accordingly in regard of
the shallows. Fortunately for us, the issue was
in our case less disastrous, for he, poor man, was
very much injured, and his gig of course smashed
to pieces, whilst we, after floating down a little
way, only scraped the boat keel along the gravelly
bottom, until we gradually came to a stand still.
The Professor was going to jump out, when 'Vast
a bit,' said the Captain: 'we shall have some work
to get you on board again.' And altering our pos-
ition in the boat so as to weight her forward, she
floated off again, but grated her keel all the way
down the shallow.

"As there seemed to be no main channel, we
had not the most remote idea at times where we
were, whether we were near the right or the left
bank of the river, or whether the bank that we
were passing was that of an island, or of the river
itself; but this mattered little; we were on the
Rhine, we knew, and the Rhine flowed to Strasburg;
we thought; we were not then aware that this
city is distant a mile and a half from the river.

"After numerous other scrapes and dodgings
about from one side to the other, sometimes whiz-
ing past the banks, which often had the same ap-
pearance as when one looks out of a railway train
in motion on an adjoining hedge, at others sweep-
ing down a broad piece of water, which looked (as
it really was) like a large inclined plane, and again
at other times, pulling against a bit of back-water,
we at length arrived at Kehl, having come over
no less than seventy miles of ground in six hours
and a quarter, exclusive of the halt we made at
Alt Breyssch. On hauling the boat into a timber-
yard, near the bridge at Kehl, the Doctor made
the remark, that he doubted if the crew of the
Water Lily had even on the Danube met with such
continuously rapid and dangerous streams, or had
attained the speed that the *Undine* had on that
day; and we congratulated ourselves on our arrival

here, spite of all our friends at Kembs had told us, and thought it a favourable omen that perhaps we might see England again after all."

We only add the result of the financial statistics of the trip, according to which it appears that, during six weeks and a half, and travelling over one thousand miles of country, the total expenditure from London through France, Germany, and Belgium, to Ostend, the expenses amounted only to 15*l*. each, including the carriage of the boat from London to Paris, and also from Cologne to Ghent. The book is illustrated with etchings, which add to the interest of the journal of the cruise.

Lectures on Ancient Ethnography and Geography. By B. G. Niebuhr. Translated from the German of Dr. Isler, with additions and corrections from MS. Notes, by Dr. Leonhard Schmitz, F.R.S.E. Walton and Maberly.

THESE Lectures, published by Dr. Isler in 1851, were delivered by Niebuhr in the University of Bonn, during the winter of 1827-28. Much of the ground gone over in this course is the same as that described in the 'Lectures on Ancient History,' previously published. But as the subject is complete in itself, and as many may be glad to possess the ethnological and geographical lectures, who do not possess the historical volumes, the editor has given them unabridged. The work is not, however, published in the form of lectures, but in the natural division of the subject, the ethnography and geography, Greece and her colonies, Epirus, Macedonia, Italy, Gaul, Spain, and other countries, being successively given. From the time that has elapsed since Niebuhr lectured, our knowledge of these countries is now more complete and accurate, but Dr. Schmitz has not contributed any additional matter, presenting merely a record of the statements and opinions of one who is still unrivalled as an historical inquirer. The same variety of knowledge and originality of view, conspicuous in Niebuhr's 'Ancient History,' appear in these volumes. Some specimens of his manner of treating his subject we present in the following extracts. In the early geography of Greece, the account of the Greeks in the second book of the 'Iliad' is thus referred to:—

"The Homeric Catalogue is a very remarkable document: it is a very ancient historical piece of composition, drawn up in the verse most favourable to being remembered, and in which the ancients preserved all their traditions; but it is quite foreign to poetry. Few subjects of the Iliad have engaged the attention of the learned in the same degree as this Catalogue; it was not Strabo alone that took it on every occasion as the text of his book, as we see from his work itself, but a number of other writers had done the same thing before him. But our point of view is different from that which was taken about the time of Ephorus. We see that there was a time when the Catalogue was regarded as a historical document, as a conscientious, careful, and learned account of the state of Greece at the time of the Trojan war. I have no doubt that this opinion was the prevailing one at the time of Ephorus, who was a contemporary of Demosthenes and Philip of Macedonia; that it was regarded in this light at an earlier period, is attested by the statement, that in the time of Solon, the Athenians and Megarians endeavoured to establish their claims to the possession of Salamis by appealing to the Catalogue, a fact which at least proves its early historical authority, even though the story should not be true. But since we have arrived at more unbiassed views about Homer, and no longer bind

ourselves to the superstition of his undoubted authenticity—an advantage which, though it may possibly be abused, should never again be abandoned—our point of view in judging of this part of the Homeric poems is likewise changed. We find in this Catalogue several statements which are irreconcilable with each other, which refer to different times, and betray a different origin. Thus we meet, for example, with the Heracleido-Doric colonies in Rhodes and the neighbouring islands of Cos and Syme, while according to our traditions those settlements are of a more recent date than those of the Ionians in those parts, and probably the most recent of all, which, even if it were not attested by tradition, would in itself be more credible. Here we have an evident interpolation, introduced in a Doric or Rhodian recension, which itself, however, is comparatively speaking, very ancient. We are naturally tempted to trace the geography laid down in the Catalogue to a definite period: but this is impossible without falling into contradictions; all we can say is, that the author of the Catalogue intended to describe Greece, its inhabitants and towns, as they were before the Doric migration, when the boundaries were indeed very different from what they were during the period subsequent to that migration. But although this intention of the author is manifest, yet it is not accurately carried out, and is opposed to other traditions. Such a contradiction occurs most strikingly in regard to the Ionians. The later country of Achaia on the Corinthian Gulf is said, in our traditions, to have been inhabited by Ionians, until the Achaeans, being expelled by the Heracleids from Argos and Mycenae, went to Aegialos, displaced the Ionians and established themselves in their country; in the Catalogue, on the other hand, we find a tradition which is irreconcilable with this account, the truth of which I must leave undecided.

"Peloponnesus, in Homer—the name itself does not occur in his poems—is divided into six parts, as in later times, but in a different manner. The two principal parts are the kingdoms of the Atreids, that of Mycenae and that of Sparta; then follows the country of Diomedes and Sthenelus; the country of the Arcadians, that of the Epeans, and lastly that of the kings of Pylos of the house of the Nelids. The distribution of the countries is as follows:—

"1. The kingdom of Menelaus comprises the whole of Laconia, probably extending very far into Messene; it is possible that some verses of the Catalogue are lost, or that several towns were not mentioned at all.

"2. The realm of Agamemnon, besides its capital of Mycenae with its territory, comprises Corinth, Sicyon, and the whole of northern Achaia.

"3. The dominion of the Persids, Diomedes and Sthenelus, embraces Argos, Tiryns and the Acte, together with Aegina.

"4. Arcadia has the same boundaries as afterwards, except that Triphylia does not belong to it.

"5. The kingdom of Nestor consists of western Messene, Triphylia, and the south of Elis as far as the Alpheus.

"6. The country of the Epeans in the north of Elis.

"The later province of Argolis thus contained the kingdom of Diomedes and a portion of that of Agamemnon; the kingdom of the Epeans afterwards becomes Elis, but includes a part of the Pylian kingdom.

"The historical importance which we can attach to this division is extremely small. We might indulge in speculations about the causes which may have led the author of the Catalogue to make this division, and there is much that might seem to recommend such speculations. It would not be difficult to show that this Catalogue was composed at Sparta and belonged to what is called the Lycurgian recension, because it assigns favourable boundaries to Sparta and unfavourable ones to Argos, but this would certainly be an abuse of historical speculation."

On the topography of Rome, derived partly from Niebuhr's own investigations, there are

many striking details. We give part of his account of the *Trastevere*, and of the old bridges:—

"*Trastevere*, on the same side of the river, though separated by a great space, was a suburb as early as the time of Augustus; it now contains the oldest houses in Rome, which belong to the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Augustus had gardens there, and during the republican period a *navale* existed there on the south of the Aventine. On the same bank of the river there was a *naumachia*, a district surrounded by a wall, which could be filled with water for mock-fights with small boats.

"Ancient Rome had originally only one bridge, the *Pons Sublicius*; it consisted at first entirely of wood, and could be taken down for the purpose of defending the city against the attacks of an enemy. This bridge remained for a long time the only one. The *Pons Milvius*, in the neighbourhood of Rome, was likewise very ancient, but was three Roman miles distant from the Porta Carmentalis. After the third Punic war, Scipio, as censor, built a second bridge (*Pons Palatinus*) across the Tiber. It was situated before the Velabrum, near to the Pons Sublicius, and between it and the island. Not a trace of the Pons Sublicius now exists. The Milvian bridge was at first likewise made of wood, and no doubt that of Scipio also. The latter remained throughout the middle ages until the sixteenth century. There have been hydrostatic disputes about this bridge, as to whether it was built flat against the current of the river or not; it does not, however, seem probable, that, if it had been constructed on a wrong principle, it should have existed for a period of 1700 years; we must rather suppose that during this long interval the Tiber changed its course. In the sixteenth century, when the river had retreated, the bridge broke down. I am of opinion that Cavaliere Linotte, who asserts this, is right, although he is not a man of learning; such investigations do not require much learning, and good common sense is often of greater assistance. In the same century, the bridge was restored, but twenty years later it broke down again; at present only a few arches of it exist, and the first, on the opposite bank, may be assumed with certainty to be the one that was built by Scipio. A poor woman had established a garden upon its ruins, and for the payment of a trifle I was allowed to go there as often as I liked."

The personal reminiscences occurring occasionally in the Lectures have much interest, as where he thus states the principles on which he gives the opinions expressed in the work:

"I cannot, in these lectures, always attempt to prove to you the correctness of my views, and I have done so only in a few instances; but where, owing to the multiplicity of the traditions, no definite conclusion has been come to, or where I have not been able to arrive at a settled conviction, I state to you what can be said for and against it. What I am now going to state is my well-weighed conviction, and not the result of an inquiry made to-day or yesterday. I commenced studying the subject at a very early age, about thirty-five years ago; afterwards I put it on one side for many years, because I was engaged in others, and those the most practical occupations, in financial, commercial and exchange matters,—years which I do not regret, for I think that in them I did some service to my contemporaries. But I never lost sight of my favourite inquiries, for I cherished them in my walks, in my travels, nay, in the midst of the confusion of war. One of the most important inquiries, viz., that about the Slavonians and Sarmatians, I made in the interior of Russia, when I had no books with me except a Latin translation of Strabo. With this conviction I will at once lay before you the results of my investigations; it would take several years, if I were to attempt to refute the opinions of others; I shall give you that which I honestly hold to be true and correct."

In the account of the Latin towns, the following remarks occur in connexion with Tus-

culum, the whole district around which was in the possession of Lucien Bonaparte when Niebuhr was in Italy:—

"The most important of the Latin towns in the vicinity of Rome was Tusculum; it was distant only a few miles, and could be seen from Rome, being situated above Frascati. During the middle ages, it was destroyed by the degenerate Romans, and never restored on the height, but the survivors were obliged to settle at the foot of the hill, which was the origin of the modern Frascati. The ruins of Tusculum which have been dug out are very important; the theatre was found with very beautiful statues in it, but it has been covered over again. A number of pedestals with inscriptions also were found, which are no doubt as ancient as the persons they described; some are as old as the period after the Hannibalian war, as, for example, the one of Fulvius Nobilior, the conqueror of Aetolia: nowhere have so many ancient stones been brought to light; but the number of inscriptions belonging to the earlier times, and even to the Augustan age, is extremely small. The whole district belongs to Lucien Bonaparte, who has made excavations, in the process of which very many things of importance have been discovered. If he had continued them, extraordinary things would certainly have been brought to light; but he has no interest for anything except works of art, statues and the like, and it is impossible to make him see the importance of the remains of antiquity. He has the most unhistorical mind, and is unable to understand of what interest antiquities can be to history: the most beautiful things have been sold by him. He is one of those men who enjoy a high degree of celebrity without deserving it: he is lively, but absurd, and an extremely bad epic poet. He has laid out a garden on a hill, and on a box-tree in it he has inscribed in order the names of the greatest epic poets, beginning near the root: out of modesty he has put his own name lowest, and ascends up to Homer. It was impossible to induce him to make excavations according to a regular plan. I have often been in despair about it: this is a grief which a man may often have to bear in Italy, because excavations can be so easily made. The Fasti Capitolini are of extreme importance in Roman history; three large pieces of them had been found behind the church of S. Maria Liberatrice, and I implored the authorities to grant me permission to dig there, offering to bear the expenses myself; but I could not obtain permission, and was told that it would be done in due time, and that our descendants also must have something to do. Such things are a severe trial of one's patience. If excavations were made at Tusculum, a Roman Herculaneum would be found. I do not mean to say that buildings equally well preserved would be discovered, but the ruins are very large, and the streets would certainly be found. When I was there, excavations were accidentally made below a wall, but they were afterwards stopped, for Lucien Bonaparte was inexorable. Once, during excavations which were continued only for a few weeks, a whole street with the walls of the houses up to a certain height was discovered; it was of the most perfect construction, although it was only the street of a country town, for Tusculum was certainly not larger than Coblenz. The street was completely filled with pieces of architecture, which had fallen down during the barbarous process of destruction: columns of the most beautiful marble were found, but broken to pieces, and statues of the most exquisite workmanship, such as one might expect to find at Rome during its most brilliant period. The architecture is that of the imperial period; the street also contained a well, the water of which was carried down from a hill. Very ancient inscriptions also were found, one of which contained the name of A. Sicius, who is mentioned by Livy in the war against Perseus. If the Forum were laid open, Fasti and law-tables would no doubt be brought to light; it is still possible to say whereabouts it must have been situated. In like manner the site of the Forum of Praeneste was known, and fragments of the Fasti of Verrius Flaccus were

found there, although the excavations were made very carelessly. In later times Tusculum was the most brilliant among the Latin towns."

We give only one other extract as an example of the graphic style of description in which the geographical details are sometimes given. It is in the general account of the great range of the Apennines:—

"The Apennines join the Alps in the country of Piedmont south of the Po; at first their character is indefinite, but soon their own peculiarities and a marked difference from the Alps are developed. In ancient times they were, no doubt, a vast woody range from one end of Italy to the other, whereas the greater part is now barren. In the territory of Genoa, where I have seen them, in the neighbourhood of Florence and in the Romagna, with which I am intimately acquainted, and in fact from the frontiers of Modena and Lucca, they present a very sad aspect, for they are utterly barren, and there is something wild, desolate, and terrific about them. During summer, there is no snow on any of those heights; in May it is often seen, though it is but very little: still, however, the mountains are very high, especially on the frontiers of Florence and Bologna. During winter storms are of very common occurrence, and no man can find his way through them on account of the snow; the description which Livy gives of the storms in those parts is certainly not much exaggerated. I have passed those mountains in fair weather, and when I reached the right height, I perceived at once that I was in the region of storms. The passage of Hannibal with his army across that mountain during a snow-storm must certainly have been terrible, nor can we wonder that the Goths of Rada-gaisus perished there in winter: I think I have found out the district where this happened. Towards Umbria the mountains become considerably lower; they there form a thoroughly beautiful country, the air on the heights is healthy, and chestnut forests again make their appearance. The mountains then run through Umbria in a south-eastern direction across the country of Camarina into the Abruzzi, and their height again increases immensely, so that perpetual snow is said to be found on mount Majella and some others; but this snow must be limited to the ravines. Winter there commences very early; at Rome the top of mount Leonessa is seen covered with snow even at the beginning of November, and frequently continues there till April. This is the highest ridge in Italy, and about it we have to look for the most ancient seats of the Sabines. Thence the mountains extend into Samnium, and one branch runs towards mount Garganus. Farther south, the mountains lose their excessive height, and are again, up to their top, covered with wood, either chestnuts or other trees that are useful to man. The mountains there are comparatively of a moderate size, and are exposed to the full influence of a southern climate, especially in Lucania, and in their continuation extend into Bruttium down to the peninsula which physically belongs to Sicily. The last extremity, which ought no longer to be called Apennines, for it neither belongs to them in a geological point of view, nor do the mountains run in the same direction—I allude to the mountain between Lucania and the isthmus—is the Sila, the large Bruttian range of mountains covered with fir forests, where the Romans had their large establishments for the manufacture of tar, and whence they derived their timber for ship-building."

Characteristic remarks are incidentally introduced, displaying the shrewd and vigorous thought, as well as the accurate knowledge and varied learning of the lecturer. Thus, in regard to the irrational praise of 'good old times,' in which many historical writers indulge, Niebuhr says:—

"It is a great folly unconditionally to praise our ancestors, and to forget that there is an endless number of points in which we move sometimes forward and sometimes backward. The question whether an entire period is superior or inferior to

another, is of a very different nature, and one which it is difficult to answer, if it is put in a rational way. I should least of all wish to exchange the present time for the middle ages, which fools only praise as the happiest era in history. There can be no doubt that in the middle ages life was more intense, sympathies were stronger, and activity was more vigorous; but our age has other advantages, and our progress in science especially is immense. When I compare the moral condition of our age with what it was a hundred or a hundred and twenty years ago, I cannot hesitate for a moment, with a full knowledge of all the facts, to say that our age, not only in Germany, but even in France, is infinitely better."

By the publication of these lectures, and their introduction to English readers by Dr. Schmitz, good service is done to the study of classical antiquity. All Niebuhr's works are highly valuable to the student, not only for the information they contain, but for the mental discipline afforded by contact with a mind so characterized by vigour and originality.

Travels in Bolivia, with a Tour across the Pampas to Buenos Ayres, &c. By L. Hugh De Bonelli. Hurst and Blackett.

We have in these volumes a lively journal of an excursion over a portion of South America that has always been of much interest to the traveller. It was in May, 1848, that Mr. Bonelli, sighing for warmer days and brighter skies, accepted the office of Secretary to Her Britannic Majesty's *Chargé d'Affaires* at the head-quarters of the Bolivian Republic; and, possessed of a good faculty for observation and an agreeable style, he has given us a very pleasant record of his adventures. Crossing to Chagres in one of the West India Mail Packets from Southampton, the author made the best of his way across the isthmus to Panama, and embarked from thence in one of the Pacific Mail Steamers bound for Callao. The following note occurs on entering the Bay and great River of Guayaquil:—

"We were now fast approaching the land, as our course lay towards the entrance of the great river of Guayaquil. Avoiding the sandbanks and shallows of the bar, we enter the mouth of the river, on which large pieces of timber are to be seen stranded, whilst others are floating on the waters, making their way to the sea. The enormous breadth of the river becomes gradually less, and soon nothing is to be seen from the water's edge to the farthest limit to which the eye could reach, but one great mass of dense wood. Numerous birds, disturbed from their solitudes, scream and dart by us as we slowly proceed against the stream; and shoals of fish, frightened by the noise of the vessel, plunge and disappear beneath the hurrying tide. The current becomes stronger as we advance, and the steamer is obliged to seek the shelter of the nearest shore. Large trees bathed by the waters spread their ponderous branches in all directions; and where the mud banks are laid bare by the receding tide, the alligator, stretched asleep upon the shore, lies basking in the sun's scorching heat, nor quits his slimy bed till disturbed by the rifle's sharp report, he retires wounded from the scene, and is soon lost in the depths beneath. The giant oak here rears his stately head; and the cedar, mahogany, and banyan—the latter a forest of woody bowers in itself, vie with each other in all their majesty of luxuriant growth. As we advance, several tributary streams, overshadowed by festoons of foliage, open a long vista along the surface of their placid waters; and occasionally where there was a slight clearance, fields of waving maize or cane caught the sight, together with a few huts, where the sunburnt children of the soil enjoyed their pastime in the cooling breeze. Occasionally in some creek sturdy Indians might be seen, after

the labour of the day, selecting from the fruits of their toil, which they had just landed from the watery flood. Large tracts of cultivated land and good houses became visible; and passing boats, schooners, and canoes, announced our proximity to the city of Guayaquil.

"This port, belonging to the Republic of Ecuador, of which Quito is the capital, presents from the river a pleasing and tropical appearance. Behind a quay or esplanade, where trees and seats afford shelter and repose, stands the town, with its large galleried houses and variegated awnings to protect the inhabitants from the excessive heat of the mid-day sun. Shops, *cafés*, and stores, form the basement, which is thronged with visitors, who come to while away a vacant hour, or deal in the various kinds of merchandise there displayed. At a short distance from the shore a fleet of schooners is anchored, and coasters and rafts line the roads, whilst a number of small boats and canoes stud the beach in all directions. This being the destination of the American consul and his family, on their way to Quito, myself and a few friends escorted them on shore. As they objected to go to the common *posada*, the only accommodation I was able to procure for them was a badly-furnished apartment, where, however, by the kindness of the captain of our steamer, the *Nueva Granada*, they were supplied with a good stock of provisions, as the eatables were cooked on board, and sent to them. I now left these unfortunate people, who had begun to find the inconvenience of being in a foreign country without being able to speak a word of the language, and started on an exploring expedition by myself. I was soon accosted by two well-dressed gentlemen, who saluted me in the most respectful manner. I was quite at a loss to know who my friends were, when they recalled to my recollection some little favour I had conferred on them on board the ship. I regarded them with astonishment when I recognised my Spanish acquaintances, now completely metamorphosed, and dressed in the very height of fashion. These grateful fellows could not thank me sufficiently for what I had done. They made the best return they could in assisting me in various purchases I was making, and procured for me many articles at a much cheaper rate and of a better description than I could possibly have procured myself. The evening being advanced, and feeling rather tired, I entered one of the best *cafés* to seek some refreshment. The waiter was at my elbow almost before I had time to call him, and placed down before me an ice, some chocolate, sweet cakes, and preserves. I looked at him with surprise. He bowed and withdrew. Imagining this to be the custom of the country, I took no further notice, but helped myself freely to that which pleased my fancy. After remaining some time, I called the waiter, and demanded of him how much I had to pay. He informed me that all I had taken was already paid for, as well as anything else I might choose to order. I regarded the fellow with astonishment, thinking he must have been mad. Still wishing to settle my bill, with my purse in hand, I made another attempt to ascertain the amount of it. To all my inquiries he was now mute, and taking the things away, he bowed and retired.

"On my way to the beach I turned over this affair again in my mind, and the only solution of it which I could give was, that my Spanish friends had seen me enter the *café*, and in this delicate manner had manifested their gratitude.

"As I approached the water's edge, in order to procure a boat to take me on board, I found the place crowded by a perfect galaxy of all the beauty of the town, together with a host of black female servants, all busily enjoying the delights of sea-bathing. At first I thought of delaying my departure a little till they had finished their pastime; but, as I found that the nymphs took little or no notice of me, I put a bold face on it, hired a boat, and made a sally into the midst of them. I soon gained the vessel, and passed the night on board. It was intolerably hot, and the number of musquitoes and other tormentors made the place a regular *Inferno*. Soon after daybreak the steam was up, and we were ploughing our way through the waters

of Guayaquil. I forgot to mention that the pine apples there are without exception the finest I ever beheld, many of them weighing five or six pounds each, and they are as abundant as they are remarkable. Rafts came alongside containing pyramids of them, and they were sold at about the rate of one *Medio* (or 3d. of English money) each."

Mr. Bonelli spent several days in the gay city of Lima, and witnessed, among other scenes, a bull-fight—

"During my sojourn in this city, the announcement of an intended bull-fight, to take place at the Teatro de los Toros, on the outskirts of the city, induced me to make an effort to witness this strange exhibition. Carriages of all kinds, from the most superannuated to those but newly built, were put in requisition; and cavalades of horsemen, together with a vast concourse of pedestrians, habited in their holiday attire, flocked early to the exciting scene. The Theatre of Bullfights contains a spacious arena, which is enclosed by a strong barrier five feet high, around which a clear passage is formed, away from the spectators. Around the circle the seats are then ranged, one above another; and at one part, opposite the entrance, an elegant box is fitted up with flags, garlands, and drapery, together with gaudy cloths of velvet and gold, for the reception of the President and staff. Tier after tier soon becomes densely filled with eager spectators, the lower ones being reserved for the more *élite* of the population of Lima, comprising many a beautiful woman, attended by her favourite cavalier. A division of infantry, headed by their band, marched into the arena, and after they have paraded about some time to the cheering sounds of some lively music, the President and his staff appear in their box, and are complimented by the usual honours, and the applause of the multitude. The band then retire to a place allotted to them, the soldiers march within the barriers, and, after a flourish of trumpets, six beautifully-dressed young men, each with a small red flag in his hand, rush into the middle of the arena, and bow to the President. After this, six *cavaliers piqueurs* follow, on richly caparisoned horses, and do the same. The whole of them then disperse and retire, the horsemen taking up their places, with the six men on foot in advance of them.

"There is a second flourish of trumpets; the gates in front of the presidential box are thrown open, and the roar of an infuriated bull echoes along the theatre. The most intense enthusiasm prevails everywhere, and the whole company are on the very tip-toe of expectation. A small, black bull, with short horns, and short, curly hair, rushes headlong into the arena, with his tail erect, and foaming at the nostrils, and makes a stand in the centre of the flagmen. These then wave their banners, and do all in their power to enrage him. The infuriated beast looks first at one, then at another, stamps violently upon the ground, and then roars with terrific vehemence; after which, as quick as thought, he rushes at two of the footmen, who have only time to clear the barriers ere the horns of the bull come into contact with their garments. He now makes for one of the horsemen, and in an instant shivers his lance to pieces; then gores the horse under the ribs, who, falling right over on his rider, nearly crushes the unfortunate *piequer* under him. In order now to divert the attention of the bull from their helpless comrade, the flagmen and horsemen exhibit a great deal of prowess and daring, and the intrepidity they manifested in their several efforts was beyond all description. The bull, worried by one and the other, followed them for a little space of time, and during this short interval, the fallen man was rescued, and carried away in a most deplorable state. The poor horse, in the agony of his sufferings, endeavoured to rise upon his feet, when the mad bull, catching another sight of him, made several desperate rushes at the dying creature, and having strewn the arena with his entrails, finally tramped upon his victim with rage. The flagmen now advanced towards the bull, armed with flags provided with darts at their ends, to which are attached fireworks. When they arrive

near him, they turn suddenly off, planting, at the same moment, a dart in his buttocks. This is no sooner done than another, and another, and another flagman goes through the same manoeuvre, till the angry beast is literally covered with flags. The fireworks then ignite, covering him with a shower of sparks. Every now and then an explosion takes place, and the skin appears torn away from the flesh, with the red gore trickling down. Mad with pain, fright, and rage, the infuriated animal now frisks about in all directions, and at last, gasping for breath, comes to a regular stand. Once more the trumpets flourish; the stately *matador* enters in the graceful costume of an Andalusian bull-fighter. He raises his little black bonnet, and bows to the President. His esquire then advances, and offers him the hilts of two Toledan swords, crossed. One is selected, and this handsome Spaniard (for he was a famous bull-fighter from Cadiz) walks up towards his ferocious enemy. All the other flagmen and horsemen retire, and form a group in a distant part of the arena, to watch the encounter.

"The bull seems by instinct to know that his end is approaching, and to recognise his destroyer. He keeps his gaze fixed upon him, as he steadily advances, quite on the alert, as he comes up to him, to start away on the instant. They are face to face intently regarding each other, when all at once the animal roars furiously, stamps impatiently on the earth, butts at the air, and scatters about his gory foam. Then he starts up with the rapidity of lightning, tosses high in the air the red cloth held out by his wily antagonist and tramples it under foot. He then turns and renews his attacks; the adroit and agile bull-fighter stepping aside each time to avoid his sudden rush. All this time the appearance and shouts of the people rend the air, and the uproar of the excited spectators, who are worked up to the greatest pitch of enthusiasm and delight, mingles with the loud bellowing of the fierce beast, who occasionally makes false starts, which are well watched and parried by his active adversary. At last, fearing, as it were, to lose a chance, he rushes on his foe, when his head is immediately enveloped in the red mantle, and the king of the *Matadores*, jumping aside, with uplifted hand plunges his well-tempered steel up to the very hilt in a vulnerable part of the bull's body, a little above the shoulder. The animal now rushes forward, frantic with pain, and giving one long last gasp, falls dead upon the arena.

"The whole assembly then rises. The waving of hats and handkerchiefs is universal, and the applause quite overwhelming and deafening. Wreaths of laurel are thrown to the conqueror, who stands upon his fallen victim and bows to the admiring crowd. Then there is another flourish of trumpets, the military bands strike up in the general tumult, the large gates are thrown open, and four beautiful steeds covered with rich cloths of gold and plumes of waving feathers on their heads, harnessed abreast, and led by their respective grooms, prance gracefully round the circle, after which the dead bull is attached to the harness, and after making the round of the arena, is conveyed away amidst general acclamations. Seven other bulls now entered and went through the like phases of this extraordinary exhibition, after which the enraptured audience withdrew, well satiated with the sight of blood, and the slaughter of unoffending dumb animals. The continual repetition of such a sight was to me painful in the extreme; and I returned to my hotel in disgust at what I had witnessed, and content to have satisfied my curiosity for once and for ever on the matter of bull fights."

We have, however, been chiefly interested in his visit to the city of La Paz:—

"On leaving the spot where I had the first view of La Paz, described in the last chapter, everything soon began to betoken the suburban approach. The Gareta—a barrier, or look-out house for passports, was soon reached. Then shops, stores, and buildings of various kinds, marked the vicinity of a large city; and soon afterwards we found ourselves on a slight elevation, in a kind of square, one side

of which was formed by an ancient church, one of the primitive structures of the Jesuits. From this point we obtained a delightful view of this favoured city, which possesses all the advantages of the tropics, together with the freshness and salubrious air of a colder clime. Its proximity to the mountainous region of perpetual snow doubtless contributes to its refreshing coolness, as compared with many other places situated beneath a tropical sun; and the clouds which gather around the summits of this lofty range, as they discharge their deluge of waters over the devoted city, serve both to purify the atmosphere and fertilize the land. It was at such a moment that I approached it. Indications of a coming storm were everywhere abundant, and that unnatural stillness, in which Time appears to have outrun his glass—when 'coming events cast their shadows before'—prepared us for what was so certainly to follow.

"Soon bursting their celestial barriers, heaven's high artillery rolled on in awful grandeur. The spirit of the tempest, with flaming sword, dashes to earth, as the whirlwinds in mighty columns of dust sweep along, from subterranean caverns, the trembling plains beneath. Then all is as suddenly hushed. This fierce warring of the elements has passed away as a dream, and nothing is to be now seen but the ethereal vault of heaven, where the noble condor, with outstretched pinion, soars in silent majesty in the broad expanse.

"After witnessing so magnificent a scene, we pursued our course till we arrived at a convent, which stretches along one side of the way, and through whose numerous windows might be seen occasionally the heads of some of its unfortunate inmates, peering out, as it were, upon a world lost to them for ever. Passing on from thence, I soon arrived at the beautiful mansion of Senor Villareal, to whose kind offices and hospitality I am indebted for many an agreeable day spent in the city of La Paz. I was now domiciled in my resting-place, and had ample opportunity of reconnoitring the various points of attraction which the neighbourhood offered. As, altogether, I passed a space of two years in this city, I shall be able to give the reader a tolerable idea of it, and of the impressions produced by my sojourn there, without my narrative appearing in the form of a journal.

"In the principal Plaza, or square, which is composed wholly of granite, a very superb cathedral is now in process of erection. It is remarkable for its elegance and simplicity of style, and promises to be one of the most graceful, as well as most substantial edifices of the New World. Unless the work be prosecuted with greater spirit than has hitherto been evinced, generations to come will fail in seeing its completion; but it is to be hoped that the pride of possessing so splendid a work of art will stimulate to greater exertions in future.

"Adjoining the cathedral is the Prefectura, or *Hôtel de Ville*, a building in the Swiss style of architecture. It is coloured yellow, but is by no means a disagreeable object. At the opposite angle of the Plaza are a number of arcades. It is here that the English apothecary, Mr. Marchant, resides. He is a man of the profoundest erudition, besides being an excellent linguist, but is at the same time somewhat celebrated for his strange eccentricities. The other inhabitants of this quarter are chiefly notaries, writers, and such like.

"At the termination of the arcades there is what is denominated the *Capella*, or chapel, which on some occasions is used for the purposes of religious worship, but is at the same time devoted to many other objects. State prisoners are here confined, as well as malefactors, previous to their execution. It is also used as a Chamber of Deputies during the Congress; likewise as a school, and the place where examinations are held for the distribution of degrees and diplomas. The remainder of the Plaza presents nothing remarkable, (unless we except a tolerable house, which once served as a residence for a former president,) it being chiefly occupied by shops and a number of very inferior stores.

"The general characteristics of the place are heavy carved balconies, painted green after the Limanian fashion. In the centre of the quadrangle

is an elegant stone fountain, exhibiting workmanship of a very high order, in the style of the French school of sculptural design. The architect of this work, and the designer of most of the modern public buildings of the Republic, is a Senor Nuncy, a gentleman of decided talent, who was sent by the late president, at the expense of the government, to Italy, France, and England, for the purposes of study, and who availed himself so well of these advantages that the fruits of his genius will bear a favourable comparison with the best works of the artists of these several countries.

"Leading into the grand Plaza is the Calle de Comercio, which forms the end of a long series of streets from the heights to the city, and which constitute the principal entrance into it from that quarter. The shops which it contains are of a very ordinary character, both as respects outward appearance and internal convenience; but nevertheless they often contain valuable stock to a very large amount, consisting mostly of English and French goods. There are several commercial houses here engaged in a large way of business. The principal are those carried on by Senors Zabala, Grenier, Mascer, Sainza, Aramago, Loruco y Hermandos, Portales, and Stokes.

"Of private mansions, there are several which merit notice. Those of Senors Villamil, Bollivian, Santa Cruz, Medina, and Grenier, are among the best. The market-place, during the former part of the day, presents a very lively scene. Hundreds of Indian women and children are to be seen squatted on the ground and selling their provisions, consisting of various wares, mining implements, fruits, flowers, and vegetables; and in the sombre attire of their habitual mourning, (said to be for their departed Incas,) forming a marked contrast with the gay and pretty Creole women who come to make their purchases, dressed out in their gaudy petticoats of various hues. By the way, those who are admirers of dark eyes must be on their guard against the seductive influence of these attractions on the part of the latter.

"Then the attention is diverted to the water-carriers, both male and female, passing to and from the fountain, and bending under the weight of their huge *contaros*. Occasionally the scene is varied by a number of fat *padres*, accompanied by little boys, chanting as they march in procession in honour of some great image of a saint, which is decked out with all the finery they can heap upon it. The tinkling of a bell warns the stranger quietly to withdraw from a too near approach to the important ceremonial, or otherwise he will find that he must submit, in common with others, to the usual reverence which is exacted, according to the peculiarities of the country.

"The museum, library, and courts of civil law, are contained in one large building. In the former are to be found several extraordinary and antiquated specimens of the human form. They consist of mummies which have been dug out of the ruins of the cities of the Incas, and are in a remarkable state of preservation. There is also an extremely rare collection of Indian vases and earthen utensils, as well as some unique specimens of arms, and various ornaments of singular make. The room in which these are preserved is hung round with a numerous collection of portraits, representing certain Spanish *grandes* who were in command of La Paz—such as Oruro, Cochabamba, Potosi, Sucre,—no doubt of great interest to the historians and biographers of the country, though anything but pleasing to the eye of a connoisseur in works of art. The collection of minerals is very valuable, but, for want of labels, the public are debarred from the instruction and interest they would otherwise afford. The same remark applies to that part of the building which is devoted to natural history. There are here preserved various specimens of animals and birds of an extremely rare character, but the advantages of their being assembled together are quite neutralized, owing to the entire absence of all arrangement and classification."

Of the festivities in the same locality Mr. Bonelli gives a droll account:—

"During my stay at La Paz, I had many opportunities of witnessing these displays of religious zeal. One of the most important is that which takes place on the festival of *La Senora de la Paz*; and I will now endeavour to give the reader an idea of the singular manner in which it is celebrated. The morning of Wednesday, the 24th of January, 1849, it being the day which is peculiarly dedicated to the lady patroness of the city, was ushered in by the sound of Indian pipe and drum proceeding from every quarter, and awakening the slumbering inhabitants to the consciousness that the *Caciques* were collecting their several bands.

"During many days previous great exertions had been made in the erection of scaffolds in front of the old cathedral. These were from thirty to forty feet high, and covered with crimson cloth, and were abundantly decorated with pictures of saints, framed in silver, forks, spoons, dishes, jugs, and all sorts of domestic utensils, of the same precious metal; images, garlands, drapery, together with fruits of every variety, from the water-melon to the fragrant pine-apple; flowers of every description, and of every hue; vegetables of all sorts and sizes, from the formidable pumpkin to the unassuming radish, all tastefully arranged around silver, plaster, and wooden images of saints and angels, which cut rather a ludicrous figure as they peered forth from amidst such a profusion of dainty fare. Within the building, the various altars were adorned in like manner with everything calculated to add to the gaiety of the scene.

"The neighbourhood was filled with roving parties of Indians, attired in the peculiar costume of their several tribes; some of them, both men and women, following the fashion of the Peruvians, carried crowns of variegated feathers on their heads, leopard skins thrown over their shoulders, and their bodies decked with kirtles of feathers. With bows and arrows in their hands, and dancing unweariedly to the rude sounds of their native music, these unpolished sons of nature were to be met with in all parts of the city for hours, and failed not to excite attention in their efforts to celebrate the day. Some parties appeared in long robes of white, neatly plaited round the body, with their faces blackened, and wearing broad belts of variegated feathers of exquisite workmanship—others with lappels or wings of the same material—the head-dress being a sort of diadem, with one feather at the back. Each person carried a Pandean pipe, which in some cases was of large, in others of small dimensions—but the combined effect of them, though the intonations were in rather a melancholy strain, was anything but disagreeable or inharmenious.

"Some of the most eccentric performers on this occasion wore large cocked-hats, several yards in extent, made of paper, and trimmed with variegated feathers, the aforesaid plume in the centre of colossal dimensions, forming a conspicuous feature; their faces wearing masks, representing the heads of wolves, bears, or monkeys. Others appeared habited in old court suits, or faded regimentals, with *epaulettes* of feathers, and mounted on imitation buffaloes, leopards, and dragons, having their legs hidden by a kind of petticoat. In their hands they carried small looking-glasses, in which they continually affected to admire themselves, and they produced much merriment by their antics and gambols, occasionally rushing at the people with their horns—then formally and with much ceremony joining the musicians and dancers.

"At night large bonfires illuminate the neighbourhood, and a general fire of squibs and crackers takes place, until the actors in this strange scene, overcome with drink, reel, quarrel, fight, and tumble home. The general effect at night is much heightened by the numerous lamps and lanterns with which the several altars of the church are decorated. The amusements peculiar to this festival generally last between two and three days, when, to those who love quiet and decorum, it is agreeable to find that order is again restored.

"Similar scenes to that above described take place on the day set apart in honour of the patron

saint of the Indians—La Senora del Rosario. This day, throughout the whole of the Bolivian and Peruvian Republics, is observed with great pomp, and, as usual, with a vast amount of feasting and drunkenness. The grand muster on the occasion, and the religious ceremonies connected with it, take place at one of the primitive churches of the city, called Chillapampa. From this point the procession starts, after being marshalled in due order; the streets along which it passes being tastefully decorated with garlands of flowers, which hang in festoons across. At certain intervals altars are erected; and the great mass of draperies, which are suspended from the numerous balconies which line the streets, produce a very striking effect. For the most part, the costume of the Indians, together with the music and other accompaniments, resembles what has already been described. There were, however, so many remarkable additions, when I was fortunate enough to be a spectator of these important solemnities, that I will attempt to describe them.

We have not space to follow the writer into the numerous interesting cities and villages of the Bolivian Republic, with accounts of which his second volume is stored. It is full of well-detailed personal observation.

Revelations of School Life. By Cantab. Hope and Co.

The subject of this tale is one that deserves attention. In narrating some of the trials and adventures of an usher, the author describes the miserable position in which assistant teachers are usually placed in this country, and other evils connected with our educational system. If, as is asserted, the number of under-teachers is at least 30,000, and a large proportion of them men of university education, it is time that public opinion should interfere in their behalf. In the following passage some of the existing evils are referred to, and suggestions given as to the right remedies:—

"It is lamentable to perceive how grossly ignorant the public are in regard to the real principles which form the bases of our private boarding-schools. Parents are easily deceived by the speciality of the artful principal. He is all honey and plausibility to the fond parent; alas! he is too often coarse and vulgar to the hard-worked assistant. This state of things, in the present enlightened age, ought not so to be. If the principals of our private schools were educated men, it would not occur. Unfortunately this is not the case; it is to be feared that by far the greater majority of them are men who have failed in other pursuits, and *dernier resort* have turned to keeping a school, employing able men to carry them, and getting all the credit for their exertions.

"How can our educational profession be respected, when these glaring excrescences are so visibly prominent? How can the intelligent educator hope to be admitted into good society, when these painful drawbacks are permitted to exist? How can it be expected that proper men will select it as a profession, when these sad realities continue as black spots upon the surface?

"That there are connected with the profession, men of acknowledged merit, of enlarged views, who would do honour to any station in life, is but an aggravation of our regret. We fear their supineness has proved of incalculable injury to this noble profession. Their indifference has given increased courage to the 'pretenders.' In no other profession would such latitude be tolerated. In the medical, no one, except by fraud, would be allowed to practise as a surgeon. In the other professions no one can commence without being duly certificated. In the scholastic, any one, who has a few hundred pounds, can either purchase or establish a school; parents are deluded, and these adventurers thrive. The public are lukewarm,

and they succeed in impunity. Our government are ignorant or indifferent, and they go on with success.

"It cannot be surprising that there are men engaged as assistants in schools who are incompetent to discharge the duties which they undertake to perform, when it is remembered the facilities which are offered to any person who may feel disposed to accept an appointment in a school—when it is a known fact that through the 'agency system' a man of most questionable character can be easily inducted into a situation without any real inquiry being made into his moral character, or attainments. The accommodating agent having only a special regard to his own fee, takes little trouble, and cares considerably less, whether the man he has recommended 'as a fit and proper person,' suits or not. He has to supply the demand, and he is perhaps compelled, from the paucity of good men, to recommend others whom he must know will not suit, but from whom he gets his commission. That these agents do the profession a serious injury is palpable to every sane person. They look upon the assistants as articles of traffic, as goods that will yield them a per centage, as cattle brought into the market, and are worth so much. They care very little, or nothing at all, whether the assistant is likely to suit the principal, or whether the principal is a person of a reasonable turn of mind, who will appreciate a man's efforts to do his best to please and satisfy. The agent never thinks about these things. His chief aim is to send a man to a school when he is wanted. To secure his commission, and to be ready to send another man to the same place as soon as the principal or assistant find they are not calculated for each other. The agent's object is to fill up the appointments which he has upon his books; he may try to get the best men, he may succeed in doing so, still he has several appointments open. The holidays are nearly terminated, the principals grow impatient, and the agent, not wishing to disappoint his patrons at the eleventh hour, sends the first, or say the best, man who offers. The principals for a time are supplied, and the agent pockets his fee, and thus for a short period the thing ends. The principal however, soon perceives that his new master will not suit. He writes to the agent for an explanation. The agent replies, 'He had every reason to believe that Mr. A. was a very likely man indeed for the post, being the best man upon his books at that time, and having been highly recommended.' The principal is satisfied with this account, sends off at the end of a month the assistant, and begs the agent to forward him another man, hinting that he hopes he shall not again be deceived.

"These tricks of the agent 'to put money into his purse,' sour the temper of the principals, and force them to view their new assistant with suspicion and distrust. Instead of there being visible to the boys a oneness of feeling and a reciprocity of action, there is only seen a cold reserve on the one hand, and a careless indifference on the other. There is no respect shown on either side. It is a bargain of necessity—not of choice between them! The extreme frigidity of manner on the part of the principal freezes the inclination—drys up all attempts at exertion of the assistant! Thus, from a want of proper confidence, they go on, without any desire to understand each other's views. The principal exercising most arbitrary power over his assistant, and his assistant, in consequence of this harshness, performing his duties in the most indifferent and slovenly manner!

"How easily all these painful exhibitions could be avoided, by the principals themselves examining into the characters of their assistants, previous to the forming of an engagement! How all these disagreeable appearances would be obviated by the principals seeking for an assistant through the medium of the 'public press,' rather than by the interested recommendation of an agent."

The "school agency" system is certainly liable to great abuses, some of which are in this tale drawn with painful truth. We wish we could believe the author's exposures to be

exaggerated, but he seems to write of what he knows about these educational "crimps." These agents, it appears, charge every poor fellow whom they recommend to a situation five per cent. upon their yearly stipend, so that, in fact, if an usher is found not qualified, and stays only a month, they get their fee not on the month, but on the year. If the salary is at the rate of thirty guineas a year, with board and lodging, the agent obtains 17. 16s. 6d. as his fee, including 5s. for registration. If the applicant does not happen to have that amount of money at the time, as is too often the case with poor teachers, the agent receives an order upon the principal of the school for the amount. What is likely to follow is thus described:—

"The agent wishes him a kindly farewell—hopes he will like his situation, and find everything comfortable. He starts for his Elysium. He has not been there a week, before this order is sent down to the Principal, with a request, that the amount may be deducted from the first quarter's salary!"

"Thornton's excitement was painfully intense. The muscles of his face were violently contracted, and he was at that moment mad with the indignant recollection of this 'crimping system.'

"It really does seem hard upon these poor men, Thornton," I remarked.

"Don't you see, Mason," rejoined Thornton, somewhat less agitated, 'how injuriously it operates against this poor fellow. The Principal from that moment looks upon him with distrust—taking every occasion to find fault with everything that is done—making the position of his new master miserable—treating him with contempt, and the result is, that he gives the poor fellow his *congé* at the end of the month. Again being thrown upon the town, the poor Assistant is desolate, gladly applies to one of these agents, who recommends him to another place, in which, perhaps, he stays another month. Thus he goes on, year after year, plucked and plucked by these agents.'

"Do you mean to say, Thornton, that these agents get their fee on the yearly income out of a Month's salary? I inquired, not exactly comprehending Thornton's meaning, and wishing to draw him back to this subject.

"I can tell you this much, Mason, if you did not pay them their demands, they would not only not recommend you again, but would try and damage your character and reputation in some dirty, underhanded way or other."

The condemnation is here far too strong and sweeping, as there must be men of high character and attainments connected with school agencies, but as there are cases of the reverse, it is well that the abuses of the system should be exposed. A more important source of the evils in the private schools of England, is the incompetency of many of the proprietors or principals. In the following conversation between our usher and a French master, the present state of things is well brought out:—

"It is a perfect disgrace to your country to have such ignorant men heads of large schools."

"You are quite right, Monsieur; though we cannot alter it."

"That is true, Monsieur," replied La Fische, 'but why not? Why should such illiterate men be permitted to open a school? In my country they would never be allowed to do so.' La Fische's face flushed with indignation. 'In England, the educator is thought less of than a common workman; whilst upon the Continent he is looked upon as a friend, and worthy to enter the first society.'

"So it should be in England," I remarked; 'and so it ought to be in every country where education is duly valued.'

"Why is it not so in England?"

"It is the fault rather of our government than of ourselves," I replied; 'there is no check put

upon enterprise of any kind. Any ignorant man may set up a school in the very same way that another man may become a butcher or a grocer. We have no law to restrain or prevent any one from doing so."

"Ah! I know not, Monsieur; it is not so with us. If any one opened a school without a licence from the Executive, he would be liable to fine and imprisonment."

"And he richly deserves it, Monsieur," I replied. "Here in England we have quacks of all kinds and degrees, but the most dangerous and contemptible of all 'quacks' is the ignorant schoolmaster."

"We have nothing of the kind upon the Continent. Our schoolmasters undergo an examination in whatever branch they choose to teach, and get a certificate for that only, and durst not instruct in any other."

"That is as it should be," I replied. "There has been recently chartered a society which has in view similar objects, and I heartily wish its success."

"It will greatly benefit the profession, Monsieur, by giving the public a guarantee for the character and capabilities of its members."

"It will also give a more healthy tone to the profession," I remarked. "I wish its usefulness could be widely diffused throughout the length and breadth of our land, then we should soon perceive a wonderful difference in the position of our instructors."

"Ah! ah! it will be so in time. You must remove the strong prejudices of the interested and narrow-minded, before you can expect a society like this to be generally accepted," I found La Fische had entered upon a subject in which he appeared to take considerable interest. "I am astonished," he continued, "at your country's blindness on this head; why don't they at once make the calling of an educator respectable, by supporting the views and objects of this 'College of Preceptors'?"

To one other subject introduced by the author we refer. There are asylums for the infirm or superannuated in all professions and trades, but the schoolmaster has rarely anything to look forward to if overtaken by misfortune or calamity. The author is describing the "grinder's agent's waiting room":—

"There was one very unmistakable look which they all had in common—'disappointed, blighted hopes, disgust of themselves and their vocation.' That was too conspicuous in all! They appeared men who were driven to this place as a 'refuge for the destitute,' to seek for a berth which they would never take unless they had been compelled to do so by circumstances over which they had no control. There was not the cheerful smile, the lively careless chat amongst them; but the solemn, severe gloom of despair. Their countenances were the reflex of their hearts, and so they were heavy and sombre. You heard not amongst them the witty remark or pointed allusion, which would elsewhere secure a hearty laugh. Everything here was dark, black, corroding—no light, no glimmer of joy or happiness; all were the painful exponents, the suffering victims of the unfortuitous, uncertain ways of fickle fortune. Their misery seemed increased by the occupation they were doomed to follow. Their disappointments in life appeared aggravated by the painful degradation of the only alternative for an existence which presented itself for their acceptance."

"Not one amongst them looked happy or cheerful. The old man was a painful specimen of what men like these suffer. He had evidently consumed the most precious portion of his useful life in assisting others to accumulate wealth, whilst he had totally neglected himself. He would, in a few short years more, be incapable of exerting his faculties for his support. Then—what? where? how could he live? Has he made a provision for old age? Has he had the ability, the means to do so? If not, when sickness or decrepitude overtake him, whither can he flee for aid? To whom look for succour? Alas! his tribe have no friends! The poor man has his parish! his poor house! The

intellectual beggar—the broken down instructor of our youth has nothing. No asylum to shield him, no society to assist him, no sympathizing friends to soothe, no voice of love or affection to smooth the rigid pillow of affliction! He is a poor destitute! A slave's life he has lived, a slave's death alone awaits him! Had he been brought up in ignorance, and knew nothing, he would have met with friends. He would have found a provision and a home waiting for him in his declension of life. Being an educated man, and the educator of our youth, he is neglected, and must look out for himself, or die, as many have done, in poverty and despair. Be it our noble mission to raise our voice, however feeble, in behalf of this long neglected, useful, valuable class of men. Let them come out from their darksome state, into which, for so long a period, they have been hopelessly cast, and let the public know their trials!"

The design of the author being so good, and the subjects taken up by him so important, we gladly commend his work to the notice of our readers, though there is little literary merit in the style or artistic skill in the story to render it attractive.

Castellamonte; an Autobiographical Sketch, illustrative of Italian Life during the Insurrection of 1831. Westerton.

UNDER the form of an autobiographical sketch, these volumes contain an historical romance of the time of the Italian revolution of 1831. It is difficult to know how much of the book is an accurate record of facts, and how much is due to the author's invention. Some of the scenes appear to be faithful descriptions of events, and the work on the whole affords a striking picture of the revolutionary period. The account of the Italian student life in the first volume is very interesting, from which we give an extract describing the agitation at the University of Parma caused by passing events:—

"The fifteenth of November is commencement-day for that far-famed academical institution. The inaugural discourse had this year (1830) been delivered by Mardonio Molini, professor of Natural Philosophy,—a man since well known to fame, but at the time the youngest and most popular of our instructors. He was a pupil of the Polytechnic School in Paris, and a few phrases in praise of the spirited conduct of the young students of that body at the barricades of July last, were perhaps in him the result of old tender associations. But the mere allusion to schoolboy riots and revolutions of empires had upon his youthful audience all the effect of a shock from the mightiest of his electrical machines. His last words were drowned in a thunder of applause; and the lecturer was escorted home with pomp and ovation. On the evening, and till late after midnight, the Strada Santa Lucia, where the professor resided, was enlivened with the dreaded notes of the newly-imported Parisienne."

"On the following morning the too dangerous instructor received a message from the president of the university, purporting his temporary suspension from office. His pupils assembled in haste in the vestibule or great hall of their palace, and sent a deputation to the aggrieved professor, with offers of their stanch support if he would only continue in the exercise of his functions, regardless of the interdiction."

"The prudent professor shrunk from so open a collision with the authorities; but these, aware of the necessity of energetic measures, sent a second missive to Molini, advising his resignation. The professor complied with the polite request, and even accepted with thanks a passport with which the police accommodated him, empowering him to betake himself to 'any part of the world' he might have a fancy to visit."

"His baffled propugnators, nothing daunted, held another uproarious meeting, in which it was re-

solved, 'that the chair of Natural Philosophy should remain vacant till Professor Molini should be recalled.'

"It was on the evening of this second meeting that an impulse of curiosity led me to the Piazza, where I was sure to hear from some of my old friends how these great matters stood."

"That incipient schoolboy row bid fair to be turned into an important political disturbance. The students had talked themselves hoarse in the University Hall, and were now, though still somewhat flushed, comparatively calm and orderly. They had been raving hitherto; they now discoursed."

"The memories of the past enlivened us on all sides; the relics of our middle ages, the monuments of glorious republican times. On every lamp-post the blue-and-red cross, the arms of our own free city. The most learned of us had a long rhapsody of our own towns-people's achievements in days of yore—warfare in the Holy Land, the exploits of the Lombard League. The blue-and-red cross stood foremost in the ranks; before it the proud eagle of Frederic the Second was turned into flight. Single-handed had Parma grappled with imperial might, single-handed had triumphed."

"And now, should the disgraced scion of another imperial house, should Maria Louisa and her minions deal with us—the youths of the same town, the pride and hope of the land—as with a parcel of truant schoolboys? take from us the instructors we loved, force upon us taskmasters we detested! Why, the time was when none but the students themselves had a right to appoint teachers and proctors. 'We will make a stand for the customs of the good old times; we will vindicate our old privileges; we will have a fight for Alma Mater.'"

"Those were, be it remembered, days of great political stir. Belgium, Poland, half Europe was on fire. In the total destitution of positive information, men's minds were constantly on the stretch with monstrous conjectures. Out of a narrow-minded eagerness to smother excitement, our Italian governments invariably resorted to the most infallible means of ministering to it. They confiscated all foreign newspapers, they opened private letters at the Post-office; hence we were wild with clandestine, heaven-fallen reports."

We cannot give the details of the proceedings of the students, but the following passage describes the general feeling with which the priesthood was at that time regarded by young Italians:—

"It was in this mood that I travelled to Guastalla; and I fidgetted in my carriage-seat as I considered that short journey, and the priest-catching business at the end of it, as a first signal of a general attack upon our overgrown, overfed clergy: I hailed it as the dawn of the day when all Italy should rise against its ten thousand monasteries with fire and sword, drive the dotting Pope and his purple retinue from the Vatican, and accomplish the work which even Napoleon left unachieved."

"Even now, when blind animosity has cooled down to harmless antipathy, not a little of my anti-Levitical spirit has survived most of my prejudices on other subjects. How long is it since I have ceased to look upon that Jacobin recipe of 'strangling the last king with the bowels of the last priest,' as the quintessence of all political therapeutics? How long since I have felt satisfied that a monarch like Queen Victoria or Victor Emanuel of Piedmont, is 'the best of republics!'—but the priests! I am still, like a Quaker, almost convinced that there is no chance for the Gospel on earth, till the last of its ministers is sent about his business."

"The times seemed indeed fully ripe in Italy for the realisation of my happy dream. The Pope's subjects were in open insurrection, and rapidly marching against the Vicar of Christ. It was loudly declared that they rose against him only as a temporal ruler; but the altar in Rome is too firmly based on the steps of the throne not to be involved in its ruin; and the people and the church could not come to a reconciliation without a reform

that would amount to a positive demolition of the old fabric. In 1831, as in 1848, the Italians have only given a hint of their intentions. No open declaration of war against the church has yet taken place: questions of vital importance are to be previously settled. The Italians cannot reckon without their landlords—without the Austrians, the French; but they know what they owe their Pope and priests, nevertheless. Those black cattle are always in their power, to be immolated at full leisure, whenever the nation be suffered to have its own way.

"Even in 1831, clerical influence had utterly subsided, at least in the towns: the unpopularity of that stupid, brutal, papal government had disgraced the whole hierarchy. The priests themselves, aware of the precariousness of their situation, shrank like owls from the coming light. The Jesuits of Modena, Romagna, and Piedmont, never stirred from their convents. The Franciscan beggar walked downcast and woe-begone. A few dapper priestlings affected liberal manners; but I never knew one of them that did not mistake liberty for libertinism."

The account of the *coup-de-main*, in the second volume, brings before the reader a scene of stirring adventure, but it is too long for quotation, and we must confine our extracts to a passage presenting the author's general views of the politics of the period:—

"The members of our provisional government, as soon as, by a successful stratagem, they had rid themselves of the tumultuous youths, who rebelled against reason and kicked against necessity, had resolved upon carrying into effect a darling scheme, upon which their hearts were long since set,—that of saving the town from battle and ruin. They wished to spare us the evils and disasters of an Austrian invasion, which, since their hope on the non-intervention had faded, they thought they had not the least adequate means to resist; and they trusted they might avert that calamity by preparing the way for Maria Louisa's peaceful return, by a spontaneous reinstatement of her insignia and orders, by a recall of her magistrates and officers—by delivering into her hands, and recommending to her clemency, her repentant, humbled metropolis."

"A similar course was followed at Florence at a later period (1849) by the patriots of the moderate party, whose scheme, though fully successful, was of no avail in inspiring that false and pusillanimous grand-duke with any degree of confidence in his own subjects."

"In accordance with these views, our Parmesan rulers had struck the tricoloured standard, dismissed the few remaining companies of stationary militia, marched a battalion of regular troops into the main square, who had been made to resume the duchess's cockade, and proclaimed that the reign of anarchy was over, inviting every good citizen to return to their former allegiance."

"Thus would these honest and well-meaning men, out of mistaken charity for their country, have rendered themselves guilty of high treason towards it, and basely betrayed the trust that the suffrage of their towns-people had vested in their hands."

"And yet, let not their conduct be judged with unnecessary harshness. Circumstances began to bear an uncommonly dark and gloomy aspect. Piedmont and Naples gave no sign of life. France was ludicrously anxious to assure the world of her pacific intentions. The revolted states of Central Italy were abandoned to their own resources; and against the overbearing might of the Austrian empire what resources were those?"

The book closes with the author's second exile, after the revolution of 1848:—

"Eighteen years elapsed and Italy gave new symptoms of life; I was once more the sanguine youth of twenty, once more were new dear domestic feelings trampled upon, the most sacred ties severed. Once more the cry 'Viva l'Italia!' sent its irresistible thrill through my heart; 1848 was to fulfil what 1831 had promised! And I girt on

a sword once more, and a new day of hope dawned in the heavens."

"Alas! have I yet fully recovered—shall I ever get over my new disenchantment?"

"Once more abroad, though now hardly an exile, from the home of my birth to the home of my choice. Once more a man in a country of men; free from sorrows of my own, what bitter drops does Providence still mix in my blissful cup of existence!"

"What regrets! What hopes!"

"Oh! who would not die that Italy might live!"

Who would not renounce the chance of ever seeing her again, to feel certain that she will once more be worthy of her former destinies?

"Alas! poor Italy! Twice has hope towered up to the sky, twice was it dashed to the ground. Must we resign it? Is there in God no redemption? Is there no limit to the depth of thy misery, no break to thy fall?"

"How many have lived in the very hope that so long bore me up, that still sustains me; how many are daily stubbornly dying in the same faith! To-morrow! to-morrow! Yes, if we could but live to see what the morrow brings!"

If we thought that the Italians could use liberty aright, we would say, as Dr. Johnson did of the slaves' rising in the West Indies, "Success to their next insurrection." But the author, with all his patriotic aspirations, speaks despondingly of the spirit of his countrymen. In speaking of the want of Italian nationality, how painfully significant is the author's exclamation, "Alas, Italy! land of song! ten thousand operas, and not three notes of a national hymn!"

NOTICES.

A New and Complete Gazetteer of the United States. By Thomas Baldwin and J. Thomas, M.D. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Grambo, and Co. London: Trübner and Co.

THIS volume, besides its topographical details, presents a full and comprehensive view of the present condition, industry, and resources of the United States. In it are embodied the results of the census of 1850, and in many cases the population and other statistics down to the time of publication. In the appendix some tabular statements of much interest are given, as those relating to the American universities, colleges, and the theological and medical schools. The ecclesiastical statistics afford remarkable points of contrast and comparison with those lately published in the official report of the census of Great Britain. Much historical information is found throughout the volume. It is certainly the most elaborate, complete, and accurate gazetteer of the United States that has yet appeared, and an immense amount of matter is compressed in the thirteen hundred pages of which the book consists. An excellent map is prefixed to the volume.

The New Testament in Greek, based on the Text of Dr. J. M. Scholz, with English Notes and Prefaces. Edited by the Rev. J. F. Macmichael, Head-master of the Ripon Grammar School. Whittaker and Co.

DR. SCHOLZ'S text of the Greek Testament, first printed at Leipzig in 1830, is deservedly of high reputation. It was prepared after twelve years' personal examination of nearly all the principal MSS. known in the chief libraries of Europe, besides many new manuscripts the discovery of which rewarded the professor's industry and zeal. Mr. Macmichael has followed Scholz, but not without critical examination in every case of a disputed reading. Notes by the editor, and by various coadjutors, add to the usefulness of the volume. The typography is good, and unusually accurate, which is not the case with many editions of the Greek Testament, certainly not with that of Scholz. The only fault we find with the book is, that its shape is inconvenient. Instead of a volume of seven hundred and fifty pages, a larger paper should have been adopted, and the book made less bulky in its form.

Wanderings of an Antiquary; chiefly upon the Traces of the Romans in Britain. By Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., F.S.A. Nichols and Co. In this volume Mr. Wright, one of the most accomplished and enthusiastic of our English antiquaries, has published a number of notes of his rambles. Most of the work has already appeared, in the form of papers in the 'Gentleman's Magazine,' but in their collective form they will afford instruction and entertainment to a wider circle of readers. A work of this kind is much more likely to diffuse a taste for archaeological studies than formal dissertations would effect. We have followed Mr. Wright in his wanderings with much interest, and many will, doubtless, after perusing the volume, form the resolution, as we have done, of visiting some of the localities, of which so clear and striking descriptions are here given.

Zohrab; or, a Midsummer-day's Dream: and other Poems. By William Thomas Thornton. Longman and Co.

THE story of Zohrab, especially that scene where in disguise he fights with his father, Rustam, in the battle between the Persians and Turkmans, is told by Mr. Thornton with considerable spirit; but there is wanting the warmth and brilliancy that an eastern tale of the kind might be expected to inspire. We are more pleased with the sonnets, the subjects of which are better suited to the writer's thoughtful and didactic style. We give the first as a specimen, the author following up his reflections in a series of fourteen sonnets:—

"Were there no God, and were it true that Chance
Is Nature's lawgiver, preceived to be
Supreme throughout infinity's expanse
And co-existent with eternity;
Were this the Power mysterious, whose decree
Roused startled Chaos from primeval trance,
From kindling elemental variance
Evoking light and life and harmony;
Were other guidance needless to direct
The orbs of Heaven, or more assiduous care
To tend the tribes of teeming earth and air,
Yet should we still the Atheist's creed reject;
Since Chance, of Godhead wanting but the name,
Not less our homage, prayer and praise, would claim."

Of the imitations, that of Virgil's first Eclogue is the best, some of the passages being happily rendered. The dialogue between two English peasants, one of whom is about to emigrate, while the other has got a comfortable cottage allotment from his squire, thus concludes, beginning with the line—

"Ita mee, felix quondam pecus, ita capella."
"And you, my sheep, whom I've been used to guide
To the sweet pasture of the steep hill-side,
No longer shall I sit and watch your play,
Humming a tune to while the time away.
Henceforth a stranger must be sent to show
Where the wild thyme and blooming heather grow."

To which his more fortunate friend replies:—

"Yet, for this night at least, take shelter here.
We've eggs and bacon, homemade bread and beer,
And cheese and chestnuts, and an apple pie:
Come in, for evening is drawing nigh.
See, from the hamlet smoke is rising fast,
And lengthening shadows from the hills are cast."

Horace's Epistle to Maecenas is imitated in an address to John Stuart Mill, Esq., Professor of Political Economy; on some subjects of which, as on Population, Mr. Thornton has himself written well.

Lectures on Female Scripture Characters. By the Rev. William Jay of Bath. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

THE venerable author of this work was engaged in passing the proof sheets through the press when he died, at the age of eighty-four, having been actively engaged in the Christian ministry above sixty years. Mr. Jay was well known and highly esteemed both as a preacher and as a theological writer. All his works are marked by refined taste and great good sense, as well as earnest piety. This is especially the case with these lectures on female character, founded on historical instances from the sacred scriptures. The book is one which contains matter of interesting study and useful application. The literary style is remarkably simple and forcible, and the doctrinal statements and practical remarks are of a kind that all denominations of Christians may read with profit. Mr.

Jay seems to have been a man of most catholic spirit as well as of sound judgment.

The Year-Book of Facts in Science and Art. By John Timbs, Editor of the 'Arcana of Science and Art.' D. Bogue.

In this useful and well-compiled manual notices are given of all the most important discoveries and improvements of the past year, in the sciences and their practical applications. The matter is arranged under the heads of Mechanical and Useful Arts, Natural Philosophy, Electricity, Chemistry, Zoology, Geology, Astronomy, and Meteorology. Mr. Timbs has used all available sources of information, in most cases extracts being made from the books or periodicals in which discoveries or inventions were reported, and where extracts are not given, careful abstracts of the papers are presented. To the volume is prefixed a portrait of Arago, from a daguerreotype by Claudet, and a sketch of his life. There are also obituary notices of the men distinguished in science or art who died during the year 1853.

Modern Husbandry, a Practical and Scientific Treatise on Agriculture. By G. H. Andrews, Esq., C.E. Illustrated by E. Duncan and H. Weir. N. Cooke.

THIS comprehensive and concise manual of husbandry, though adapted for general use, and intelligible in all its parts by professional and amateur farmers, is based on the soundest and most scientific knowledge of Agriculture. The chief results of recent experiments and researches are here presented in a popular form, and the illustrations and diagrams add to the clearness of the statements. Especial attention is given to the engineering and mechanical branches of practical farming, as draining, farm buildings, agricultural implements, in connexion with which this treatise contains fuller and plainer information than will be found in any similar work.

SUMMARY.

SOME recent novels and other works of fiction we must briefly notice, as we cannot afford space for extracts from all works of the class. *Reginald Lyle*, in three volumes, by Miss Pardoe (Hurst and Blackett), is the story of a rich old merchant from Lima, who returns to England after a long absence with a large fortune, and employs a lawyer to find out all his relations, in order that he may judge which of them, if any, would be worthily benefited by his assistance. A number of characters are thus introduced. Mr. Perceval Lyle, his wife, and two daughters; Mrs. Staunton, the conductress of an establishment for young ladies, and her two sons, whom she hopes to provide with two of the heiress pupils; Mr. Lankaster, a government official; Miss Penelope Lyle, a half-sister; and a young nephew, Mr. Octavius Lyle, an orphan and clever, but who can procure no employment, and whom none of his relations will assist except the maiden aunt, Penelope. The novel is made up of the strivings of each party to ingratiate themselves with the rich man, striving at the same time to keep up appearances. The nephew is at the end left in possession of the whole fortune, and also obtains the heiress whom Mrs. Staunton was manoeuvring to secure for her son, a clergyman. There is some observation of character in the tale, but the people are all too undisguisedly selfish, and the conversations are too long, and do not flow easily and naturally. *The Cardinal*, 3 vols., by the author of 'The Duchess' (Bentley), is a good novel, and the interest derived not less from the story and the characters than from the scenes, which are laid in romantic Spain, in the days of Philip V., when Cardinal Alberoni guided the affairs of the Peninsula, and influenced the destiny of Europe. The historical events of the period, and the scenery and manners of the country, are skillfully made use of, and the tale presents an agreeable variety from the common-place scenes and incidents of novels of the day. *The Evil Star; or, The Tide and the Planet*, 3 vols., by E. Colburn, Esq. (C. J. Skeet), is a cleverly-written

tale, and though there is too much crowding of characters and of incidents, they are well defined and described. The object of the book is to show how much evil a selfish and hard-hearted man may inflict upon his family, and how by an injudicious education good dispositions may be injured. The character of Ethel Vincent is very pleasing. There are various faults in the style and improbabilities in the story, as where Walter joins with common thieves in a burglary; but on the whole the book has good sketches of life and of varied society, and if the author is young there is promise of better performances. *Linny Lockwood*, 2 vols., by Catherine Crowe (Routledge), is a tale in Mrs. Crowe's usual lively style, and in which some of her peculiar opinions are occasionally introduced. *The Slave Son*, by Mrs. William Noy Wilkins (Chapman and Hall), is a striking tale of West Indian life, in which some of the features of society in slave countries are well described. Although the scene of the story is laid in the British colonies before the emancipation time, the author justly remarks that it might equally have been transferred to any other slave country and any more recent period, as the same causes are always followed by the same results. The tale was written some years ago, but was laid aside till Mrs. Stowe's book recalled public attention to the subject. The social emancipation of the coloured races is the object in which Mrs. Wilkins takes deepest interest, political emancipation being of little value where the coloured people are still doomed to degradation through social prejudices. *Lessons and Trials of Life*, by the author of 'Bertha's Journal' (Nisbet and Co.), a tale of modern social life, in which good moral principles are inculcated. The chapters relating to Canada are very interesting. *The Christmas Stocking*, by the authors of 'The Wide World,' 'Queechy,' &c. (Nisbet and Co.), is the name of a volume of short American tales, well invented and admirably told. With all the lively delineation of character and skilful description of scenery in the former works of these accomplished writers there was a diffuseness of style which rendered them somewhat tedious. These short tales we like much better, and more of them would be welcome from such writers. *The Phrenologist's Daughter* (Hope and Co.), a tale clever in style, but rather plain and rough in some of the 'fast' scenes and characters. *Mortimer, a Tale of the Times of Owen Glendower*, by William Gayer Starbuck (Saunders and Otley), a metrical romance in six cantos, the poetry of which is not marked by much art or taste, but the author's imagination is lively, and his rhyming couplets convey the story in a flowing and sometimes a striking style. Some of the episodes are narrated with great spirit, as the tale of Vortigern in the second canto, and in the fifth canto there are also interesting pieces, in different metre from the body of the poem. *Hester and Elinor; or, the Discipline of Suffering* (John Chapman), a tale not of very interesting incidents, nor written in a style of much animation, but containing matter for careful reflection and practical use to those whose position in life may correspond with the characters introduced by the author.

In Routledge's series of the 'British Poets,' a good edition is published of the *Works of George Herbert*, in prose and verse, edited by the Rev. Robert Aris Willmott, with illustrations (Routledge and Co.). Mr. Willmott's notes are few, but generally to the purpose, and the introduction is well written. Under the title of *The Tent and the Altar* (Hall, Virtue, and Co.), by the Rev. John Cumming, D.D., a series of discourses on the patriarchal age is collected, intended as a continuation of the 'Sketches of Life before the Flood.' An illustrated edition of *Johnson's Lives of the British Poets*, completed by William Hazlitt (N. Cooke), is to appear in four volumes, of which the first contains the lives from Amergin to Waller. We dislike the plan of overlaying a classical work with inferior matter, even though we are assured by Mr. Hazlitt that he has "made it a point to omit no part of Dr. Johnson's labours." But for those who have not this feeling, Mr. Hazlitt's book may

be recommended as "containing ten times the number of lives given by Dr. Johnson," and presenting "a complete biographical dictionary of our poets." The second volume is published of the new edition of M. Thiers's *History of the French Revolution* (Bentley), translated by Frederick Shoberl, with notes, and very good pictorial illustrations. The work is to be completed in five volumes. *A History of the Crimes of the Second December*, by V. Schelcher, representative of the people (Jersey printing agency), contains many facts and documents relating to the early days of the dictatorship of the present Emperor of the French. In the introduction M. Schelcher gives an account of the state of parties during the brief Republican epoch, from which there was apparently no safer and better escape than military violence. The French people are not yet fit for liberty, as Englishmen understand it.

In Jacob Abbott's series of historical school books, *The History of Xerxes the Great*, with engravings (N. Cooke), gives a very interesting sketch of his life and times. *A Practical Grammar of the German Language*, for school and self-tuition, by L. M. Tuchmann (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.), is well adapted for the kind of instruction required by commercial rather than literary students of the language. An edition of the *Anabasis of Xenophon*, or rather, of parts of the *Anabasis*, by J. T. V. Hardy, Principal of Huddersfield College, and Ernest Adams, Assistant-Master in University College School (Walton and Maberly), is specially fitted for school use, parts of the original being omitted, such as the majority of the speeches, and a brief English abstract of the suppressed passages being supplied to keep up the connexion of the narrative. There are also occasional translations and explanations in foot notes, and a map of the countries described.

A second edition of a treatise on *Indigestion and Bilious Disorders*, by George Chaplin Child, M.D. (Churchill), relates to subjects affecting mental vigour as well as physical health. Mr. Wilkie Collins's wild story of *Basil* is printed in Bentley's 'Railway Library,' in a cheap form. The eighth volume of *Chambers's Repository of Instructive and Amusing Tracts* (W. and R. Chambers), contains papers on Siberia, Arab Chivalry, Orlando Furioso, and other varied subjects. The second number of the cheap 'Library of Biblical Literature' (W. Freeman), contains a popular account of *Israel and the Pyramids*. The first number was about 'Nineveh and its Remains.' An *Appendix to the Works of Lewis Gompertz* (Horsell and Sheriffs), contains miscellaneous notices of speculations and inventions of the author.

An abstract of *The Laws of War affecting Commerce and Shipping*, by H. Byerley Thomson, Esq., Barrister-at-law (Smith, Elder, and Co.), refers to subjects of greatest importance to commercial men in case of hostilities commencing. Principles are clearly stated, and opposite cases cited, from the best authorities. A political pamphlet, *Palmerston in Three Epochs*, by Washington Wilks, author of the 'History of the Half Century' (Freeman), tries to persuade the reader of the many political inconsistencies and errors of Palmerston, whom Mr. Wilks considers a greatly over-rated or, at least, over-trusted statesman.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Agnes Valmer, 3 vols. post 8vo, cloth, £1 11s. 6d.
Aunt Effie's Gift to Nurseries, 16mo, cloth, 2s.
Baly and Gull's Reports on Epidemic Cholera, 8vo, 16s.
Bank's Nugget: The Solace of Rare Leisure, fcap, 8vo, 3s.
Carpenter's Mechanical Philosophy, &c., new edition, 6s.
Chalmers's Memoir, by Dr. Hanns, 2 parts in 1, cr. 8vo, 6s.
Child (C. C.) on Indigestion, 2nd edition, 8vo, cloth, 6s.
Church's (R. W.) Essays and Reviews, 8vo, cloth, 12s.
D'Aubigne's Reformation in England, 12mo, cloth, 3s.
Foot's (R. L.) Incidents, &c., 2nd edition, crown 8vo, 6s.
Gorham's Treatise on the Anti-Nicene Church, 12mo, 3s. 6d.
Gurney's Dangers and Duties of Protestants, fcp, 8vo, 3s. 6d.
Hamilton's Royal Preacher, new edition, 16mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Heugensberg's Christology of the Old Testament, V. 1, 10s. 6d.
Hooker's (J. D.) Himalayan Journals, 2 vols, 8vo, £1 10s.
Kingsmill's Missions, 8vo, cloth, reduced, 10s. 6d.
Lusid of Camoens, translated by Lieut.-Col. Mitchell, 10s.
Matin (The) Bell, &c., 24mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
Meek's (R.) Heavenly Things, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.

Merriman's Passages of Missionary Life, new edition, 3s. 6d.
 Newcomb's Home and its Associations, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
 Life and its Duties, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
 Plain Commentary on the Four Gospels, Vol. 2, Mark, 4s. 6d.
 Protestants in Ireland, 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.
 Robert Harold, or Young Marooners on Florida Coast, 1s. 6d.
 Shepherd's (B. H.) Memoirs, crown 8vo, cloth, 3s. 6d.
 Simpson's Plea for Religion, with Life by his Son, 3s. 6d.
 Smyth's (W. W.) Year with the Turks, post 8vo, cloth, 8s.
 Todd's (Dr. J.) Summer Gleanings, 12mo, boards, 1s. 6d.
 Wagner's (Rev. G.) Children's Wishes, 18mo, cloth, 2s.
 Whythead's The Returns and the Last Meeting, 12mo, 3s.
 Whythead's The Returns and the Last Meeting, 12mo, 3s.
 (Rev. R.) Warrant of Faith, post 8vo, 6s. 6d.

GRESHAM COLLEGE.

We have sometimes paid a visit to the Gresham lectures in the City, not without melancholy thoughts and painful regrets at what we witnessed. To a mere handful of listeners, most of them apparently stray visitors, the professors read at periodical seasons formal essays, much in the same way as the service is still performed on Sundays in some of the deserted churches in the same part of the City. The musical lectures by Mr. Taylor attract crowded audiences, but this is probably from the choral illustrations generally given. The design of the noble founder of the college has long been neglected, and in vain we now look for the spirit which animated the institution in days when Wren and Hooke and Barrow were among its professors, and when within its precincts the founders of the Royal Society held their early meetings for the advancement of experimental science. But there is still a *prestige* about this venerable institution of the Elizabethan age, besides its actual endowments, leading us to hope that its pristine usefulness may be yet restored. We are glad to find that negotiations have been set on foot for associating with Gresham College the mercantile and commercial institution lately projected by the merchants of London. At the meeting of the City Corporation Commission last week, Mr. Bennoch appeared as chairman of the committee of the New Mercantile College, and gave in the following statement, as the result of the conferences of the Committee with the Professors of Gresham College:—

"1. That in the year 1575 Sir Thomas Gresham, merchant of London, by his last will and testament, bequeathed his own dwelling-house, after the decease of Lady Gresham, to the corporation of the city of London and the Mercers' Company, in trust for the purpose of founding a college.

"2. That seven professors were to be appointed to read daily, within the college, lectures on divinity, astronomy, music, geometry, law, physic, and rhetoric. The same professors to inhabit and study in the college, being allowed a salary of 50*l.* per annum each, provided they did not marry.

"3. That, to endow such professorships, the Royal Exchange (built by Sir Thomas Gresham on ground purchased by the citizens of London for more than 4,000*l.*), its shops, cellars, &c., were also bequeathed to the same corporation and the Mercers' Company. This will was confirmed by an act of Parliament (23rd Elizabeth), in 1581.

"4. That, in conformity with such dispositions, on the decease of Lady Gresham in 1596, the joint trustees took possession of the house bequeathed, appointed professors, and fixed the times for the reading of the lectures; and in 1641 they took a patent from the Crown to possess for ever the Royal Exchange and Gresham's house, already converted into a college.

"5. That for a time the college acquired great celebrity, and counted among its professors Sir Christopher Wren, Barrow, Hooke, Sir William Petty, and other men of science. It was within its walls that the Royal Society had its origin, and that Charles II. signed its charter, in 1663; and apartments were assigned for their books, instruments, and rarities.

"6. That during the Plague and Great Fire, in 1665-1666, Gresham College was used as a place of meeting for merchants, and therefore the delivery of the lectures was for a time suspended, and the Royal Society removed to Arundel-house, whence, however, they returned to Gresham College in 1673, and there remained till 1710, when they purchased the house of Dr. Brown, in Crane-

court, Fleet-street, whither they removed with their museum.

"7. That, the Royal Exchange having been burnt down in the Fire of London, the Gresham Committee were called upon to rebuild it in 1667, and subsequently, on the plea of the expense which they had thereby incurred, the trustees of Gresham College, as early as 1699, stopped the salaries of the professors for two years, and refused to keep up the building.

"8. That in 1701 the Gresham Committee petitioned Parliament for power to pull down the old mansion, and to erect smaller buildings for the use of the professors; but Parliament refused to entertain their petition, and thereafter for some time the lectures became of little practical value.

"9. That, great complaints having been made of the management of the college, an inquiry was instituted before the Lord Mayor, Gresham Committee, and Professors; whereupon the lectures were resumed, and greater attention paid to the conduct of its affairs.

"10. That in 1717 the trustees again petitioned Parliament for authority to pull down the college, proposing to erect on the same site another building, capable of accommodating the professors and their audience; but their request was once more rejected.

"11. That in 1760 they again petitioned Parliament to the same effect, in this instance proposing to build a convenient room for the lectures, and to build in addition thereto, houses for merchants and others; but they again met with a similar refusal.

"12. That in 1767, Government requiring a new Excise-office, the trustees sold Gresham College, and the ground attached to it, for no other consideration than an annual ground-rent of 500*l.*, the corporation of the city agreeing to pay 1800*l.* in one month towards pulling down the college. An act of Parliament (8 George III., c. 32) was passed to confirm the transfer. That act provided that, by reason of the professors being deprived of their lodgings, their salaries should be raised from 50*l.* to 100*l.* per annum; that the trustees should provide a place for the delivery of the lectures, and that it should be lawful for the professors to marry, notwithstanding any restrictions in the will of Sir Thomas Gresham to the contrary.

"13. That for a considerable time afterwards an upper apartment of the Exchange was used for the delivery of the Gresham lectures, during which they became comparatively unknown, and consequently neglected.

"14. That in 1838, the Royal Exchange being again burnt down, the delivery of the lectures was transferred to the City of London School, until the present building was erected in Gresham-street, where the lectures are now delivered during the law terms. The Royal Exchange was again built by the Gresham Committee, and opened in 1844.

"15. That in 1852 the building erected for the purpose of an Excise-office, together with the ground attached to it, were sold by Government for 108,000*l.* It is understood, however, that the Crown still pays the 500*l.* per annum to the trustees of Sir Thomas Gresham.

"16. That the lectures now delivered at Gresham College consist of lectures on astronomy, physic, divinity, law, rhetoric, geometry, in Latin, at 12 o'clock at noon, and English at 1 o'clock in the afternoon; and on music and geometry, in English, at 7 o'clock in the evening; delivered during term time.

"17. That the delivery of such lectures in Latin is comparatively useless at the present day, although at the date of the foundation of the college it was useful, as Latin was often the medium of communication with foreign merchants. Moreover, the lectures being delivered during term time only, the merchants have long ceased to attend them, and the professors are often unable to secure an audience.

"18. That, owing to the progress of commerce, the great competition existing with all countries, and the advanced state of science, the educational wants of the mercantile and maritime classes are at

present far greater than those felt in the 16th and 17th centuries, and that the city of London has long suffered considerable injury in having been deprived of the advantages intended to be conferred by the illustrious founder of Gresham College.

"19. That the pecuniary trust is generally unknown; its revenues are supposed to consist of the rental arising from the Royal Exchange, with its offices, and the annual ground-rent of 500*l.* arising from the original site of the college. Its expenditure would seem to include the costs of rebuilding twice the Royal Exchange, less the sums for which they were insured; the building of the present Gresham College in Gresham-street; the salary of the professors and other officers, exclusive of any charge in respect of the almshouses founded by Sir Thomas Gresham.

"20. That, considering the vast importance of the trust, and its great practical value, it is important to ascertain with what amount of debt the property is at present charged; the interest paid upon such debt; the amount annually paid in liquidation of the same; and the annual rental; so as to indicate at what future time the whole property will be wholly applicable to the purposes of the trust."

"Proposed Constitution of the Mercantile and Maritime College, Subject to such Modifications as may hereafter appear desirable."

"That, having regard to the foregoing statement, it is suggested that the income arising from the Gresham trust, as well as the property itself, should, together with a sufficient amount to be subscribed by the merchants and bankers of the city of London, be devoted to the establishment of a Mercantile and Maritime College, the management of which should devolve on a committee, composed of the Gresham Committee and persons elected by the donors and subscribers to the college funds.

"That the proposed institution should, among its other advantages, afford courses of lectures on the different branches of sciences more especially directed to meet the requirements of the mercantile and maritime classes; and also that there should be attached to the college a Trade Museum, constantly replenished and supplied with every commercial information, besides a collection of statistics of commerce, Parliamentary papers and returns, a complete commercial library, models, charts, &c., and to be provided with an active machinery to promote objects of national and international importance.

"That certificates should be granted of attendance at the lectures, which might serve as recommendations to appointments of trust.

"That it is intended that such college shall be self-supporting, the fees to be sufficiently moderate to attract students of every grade.

"The object contemplated is entirely practical. It is desired to adapt the original plan of Sir Thomas Gresham to the extended requirements of the present time; and, while the college will furnish complete instruction upon the theory and practice of commerce and navigation, it will also form a centre of union for the promotion of the mercantile and maritime interests of the country."

It was stated by Mr. Bennoch that the liabilities and revenues of Gresham College could not be ascertained, but that there was no doubt that the institution might be of great use if properly attended to. At present there is no public school where good training for commercial and mercantile pursuits can be obtained. Without putting aside the subjects of liberal study suggested by Sir Thomas Gresham for the lectures, there might be added a system of theoretical and practical instruction directly bearing on the wants of a commercial community. The subject is an important one in connexion with the general interests of education, as well as in regard to the City Corporation and its trusts, and we hope that the Royal Commissioners may follow up the inquiries that have been commenced, and encourage any proposal that may seem likely to restore Gresham College to greater efficiency. Some of the present subjects might

well be dispensed with, as those on physis, divinity, and rhetoric. Law, in its commercial departments, would still form an important branch of instruction, and astronomy and geometry, in relation more especially to navigation, and other practical uses. History, political economy, ethnology, with classes for languages, might be among the new departments of education which a modern mercantile college should include. Lectures like those delivered by Mr. Leone Levi, on commercial law, or by Sir J. Stephen at Liverpool, on the theory of trade and commerce, would be admirably fitted for the College, and many would doubtless avail themselves of facilities for such studies.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

WE have already noticed that several of the pictures in the present collection have been on former occasions exhibited in public. The large painting, by Sir George Hayter, of *Her Majesty taking the Coronation Oath* (542), is now of so old standing as to have been engraved and published by Messrs. Graves, and was lately to be seen in their windows. The fault which mars the expression in this studied composition, and which is particularly fatal to such a subject—that of a want of dignity and nobility—is still more perceptible in the scene entitled *The Arrest of Cardinal Wolsey for High Treason* (73). It cannot be denied that the expression in the Cardinal's face is natural, but few will deny that is undignified and vulgar, almost to absurdity; and whilst no one would detect the rank of Earl of Northumberland under the dress of the armed soldier who grasps his arm, the start of surprise and astonishment is foreign to our ideal of the imperious Wolsey.

Of Mr. Pickersgill's two pictures also, we believe both—certainly one—has been already exhibited. The features of both figures are remarkably inappropriate to their costumes. That of *Laban* (85) reminds one irresistibly of a dressed model; and *The Favoured Knight* (157) has a simpering expression, which condemns him, in modern eyes at least, as being equally unworthy of his profession of arms as of the ill-bestowed 'favours' he may enjoy. Neither in composition or execution are these satisfactory specimens of the ability of the painter.

We pass gladly to such scenes of delicious repose and fine artistic feeling, though not unaccompanied by some of the artifices of the craft, as Mr. T. Danby's landscapes. *The Summer Evening in North Wales* (64) is one of the most consummate productions in this style that we have seen, producing its sure effect by a reduplication of pictorial successes springing from all portions of the scene at once, and uniting in a common result. It is probably from design that no strong foreground is introduced; and the eye is led away to misty middle distance and far-off mountainous dreamland, almost out of the realities of existence. The curiously arranged reeds denote the tranquillity of the stream, the rising smoke that of the atmosphere; the pastoral life going forward in the meadows scarcely animates the slumbrous scene, and anything more luxuriously contemplative can scarcely be desired.

A Quiet Spot (313) is another instance of exquisite effect, firm and clear painting, with more of the life and stir of nature in it.

The repose in the style of landscape above described becomes almost torpor in the hands of Mr. Hering. Not a figure occurs to disturb the charmed solitude of his shores, not a ripple breaks the mirror of his waters: the islands rest firmly upon their images reflected below, while, for want of motion, the air, which is most carefully treated, weighs cold and heavy upon the background. Yet, in the *Monte Monterone* (174), the *Augera, Lago Maggiore* (214), and the *Isola dei Pescatori* (496), there is great elaboration of ornament, and a beauty of narrative, in selecting and describing natural charms, which is very striking.

The View from the Ponte Sisto on the Tiber, Rome (232), by the late W. Oliver, much larger and more composed than the ordinary paintings

we have been accustomed to see from his pencil of late years, shows, by its advanced style, how much has been lost by the premature decease of this lamented artist. The fore part of this picture is not strong, but the middle and backgrounds are unusually firm in painting, and low but full in colour.

Mr. Sidney R. Percy has contributed two landscapes, in his very finished and accomplished, yet mannered style. *The Llyn Cwm Dulyn, North Wales* (38), though of high class, differs but little, either in construction or treatment, from many we have already seen. *Woodland Pasture* (441) is on a less pretentious scale.

Mr. Ansdell has again distinguished his pencil by some very excellent pictures. As a specimen of his painting in the large style, scarcely anything has been so complete and successful as the group of sheep, eagle, and dog, called *The Interrupted Meal* (158). Everything here is in its place, nothing is strained or false; but the contrasts rise naturally from the subject, yet are striking enough to engage a vivid interest. The fiery animation of the bird, and the dead helplessness of its victim, the bold strange forms of the expanded wings, and the animal passions, fury on the one side and sagacious fidelity on the other—all these, attractive in themselves, derive additional force from the merits of very diligent and careful rendering of the various substances. The wool of Mr. Ansdell's sheep, in particular, is admirable. The latter merits are even more striking in the smaller subject, *Lytham Common* (137), in which, though the effects are not new, they have never been surpassed. The fur of the young donkeys is, perhaps, the most wonderful effort of texture painting in the room, whilst the whole of this exquisite bit of animal life, in arrangement and distance, is unrivalled. This picture is probably intended as a companion to that of the same name in last year's exhibition. A third picture, *The Game-Bag* (564), displays an equally careful, industrious, and successful treatment of down and feathers, showing signs of the utmost patience and care. The arrangement of the dead birds in this picture, however, seems a little too artificial.

In the same department of animal-painting we should not omit to notice a very excellent work of G. Landseer's, bearing the name, *Startled* (264). It represents a fawn in an attitude of sudden surprise, at the rising of two butterflies immediately before him, a graceful incident, which, though slight, has all the appearance of nature about it. Opportunities are afforded also for some very bright and careful painting; and there is no doubt of its reappearing well in an engraving, for which purpose it has been purchased by Messrs. Graves.

Mr. Dawson again appears with a specimen of his ambitious style, which, notwithstanding the adventurousness of its attempts, must be acknowledged to possess high merits. The study of Turner, or, we may say, of nature upon Turner's model, is here less disguised; the distant shore and the air round the further ships are highly successful. Less pleasing is the arrangement in front, though the near man-of-war floats well and massively on the water; but the vessel half seen behind is confused. The sky is evidently a study, and does not harmonize well with the rest; and the red and green flakes on the water, though intended, doubtless, as the result of reflection, have an unnatural oily appearance. Notwithstanding this, however, *The Wooden Walls of England* (188) is an aspiring picture, manifesting considerable promise.

Some excellent contributions appear from the pencil of J. Danby. *The West Loch, Tarbert* (12), though small, is a very careful and beautiful bit of landscape, rather hard in parts; and perhaps inconsistent in this—that the showery look of the distant hills and the sunshine in front do not answer to the tranquillity of the sky; but the picture is all in one tone, quiet, firm, and unhackneyed. *Sunset, Greenwich* (429), again, though the buildings might have been more carefully drawn, and the architectural lines have been better marked, is yet a fine effect of lights and shades; the glow upon the river-fronts is warm and rich, there is a life-like spring in the rippling

and swarming waves, and a fine imaginative impenetrable distance stretches away towards the west.

Amongst the numerous and generally excellent contributions of the Williams's, a small sketch, called *Wind on the Thames* (102), is distinguished for remarkable skill of treatment and knowledge of effects. *Donegal Bay* (464), by C. Bentley, presents a characteristic display of mountain mist, accompanied by rich colour, resting upon distant hills, &c., and in this instance is a striking and effective scene.

In the department of sea painters, W. A. Knell appears with his *Evening on the Thames* (149), giving a group of vessels under a rich romantic sky, carefully studied, and well kept up in tone throughout. *On the Dutch Coast* (249) is a spirited composition, showing, however, more freshness than firmness of painting.

Mr. J. Wilson's sea-pieces exhibit little variation from an established type. A recurrence of similar effects, a permanent condition of water, and a uniformly cloudy sky, are poor representatives of the infinite variety of nature.

Of Copley Fielding also it may be said, that two aspects of nature only appear to enter into his observation, of which the pictures this year are characteristic examples. With him, it is either all the hot still misty atmosphere of July, or the merciless black storm that drives a doomed vessel against an iron-bound coast. *The View of Ben Vorrich and Loch Lomond* (243), and that of *Wharfedale and Bolton Abbey* (357), are instances of the former; the only difference being, that one is early morning with a mist rising from the lake, the other is midday, when the same is dispersed over the landscape. *The Scene at the Entrance of Dover Harbour* (119), is an example of the latter manner, presenting no new instances of skill and power, but the achievements of this most popular and widely celebrated artist are two well known to need comment.

Mr. W. Callow, in a *Venice* (228), shows a great advance. This is in a low tone of colour, broad, clear, and with a mastery firmness about it that demands all praise. It wants also a certain hardness which is perceptible in the other, *Venice* (122). Mr. J. Callow's *Collier Discharging* (389) has a richness and life about it which are at once attractive.

Of Mr. Jutsum's contributions it is difficult to speak favourably on this occasion, as *The Rocky Path* (153) exhibits a spotiness and weakness which are far below the productions of past years; and the *Autumn in the Highlands* (240), and *Sylvan Dell* (295), show a tendency to rely upon old effects and exploded conventional representations, which is fatal to advance in art.

A View of the Port of Oran (499), by W. Wyll, deserves notice for its aspiring attempt, and not wholly unsuccessful accomplishment. The arrangement of Turner, consisting of a long vista, leading up into sunlight, has been adopted, and a certain glow of light is produced; but the gradations are not well preserved, nor are the subjects sufficiently defined to give the scene any distinctive appropriateness. It might equally answer any scene of like character.

Near Chichester (540), by G. Cole, is a view full of warmth and richness, though the effects are a little too artificial, and for want of a general tanning down have a forced appearance.

Mr. C. Branwhite, in his *Sunny Afternoon late in Autumn* (29), affords another instance of a scene wholly divested of atmosphere, in which objects stand out with a rigid, sharp-cut exactness, like so much cast-iron. Of the wholly conventional style of this painter, however, this is an important specimen.

The architectural studies of L. T. Wood possess remarkable merits in this year's Exhibition. *The Old Belfry, Ghent* (36), is a beautiful drawing, lighted up with some rich but quiet browns and greys, which invest the architecture with an air of dignified stability, and yet of endearing interest. The somewhat liny framework of these studies is less perceptible than formerly, but is still occu-

sionally too prominent. *The Old Church and Houses at Lisle* (28), and *Grande Place at Douai* (406), are instances of scarcely inferior merit.

In the ranks of the younger artists, we record with much pleasure the remarkable progress of Mr. J. Middleton, whose *Glenashaugh, Isle of Arran* (227), is a beautiful scene, in the line of Creswick and the Williams's, full of nature and beauty, and in certain parts of very superior painting. A smaller subject, *The Woods in Autumn* (37), differently treated, but with much success, has been purchased by Lord Ellesmere. *A Beach Scene* (230), by E. R. Smyth, shows unusual study of nature and successful treatment, reminding the spectator of the refined arrangements and pure elegance of Callcott's style. Amongst the smaller subjects are some very clever interiors by F. D. Hardy (280 and 474), by W. S. P. Henderson (99 and 175), and one by H. Wallis, *The Parlour of Anne Hathaway's Cottage, Stratford-on-Avon* (512). Mr. G. Arnfield contributes two gay bits of colour in his *View in Brecknockshire* (217) and *View in Perthshire* (408). *A Wild Nook* (179), by A. Gilbert, is another refreshing spot of bright green tints. *A Sandpit from Nature* (242), by W. H. Haines, has also been very carefully studied. Mr. G. Stanfield pursues art in a spirit worthy of a great name, but a fatal hardness of style and heaviness of pencil mar some compositions of considerable study and merit. *The Fall of the Sallanches, in the Valais* (339), is an instance of this. Mr. Dearman's study, *After Sunset* (407), is a very remarkable experiment of a particular effect, with much truth and warmth in its deep tones. *Rustic Scene* (412), is in a gayer strain, equally inviting and successful. Mr. F. Dillon's *East Cliff, Hastings* (529), has the effect of haste, and is marred by some commonplace mannerisms.

Mr. H. Johnson's *Cannes* (340) is a gay picture, full of truth as to features, drawing, and general effect; but wholly imaginative as to the construction of the sky, and rather wanting firmness in the treatment of the nearer objects. Mr. Hardwick's *Jail Tower, Mainz, on the Rhine* (379), is full of that technical skill in architectural drawing which he is known to possess. *A View near Lynmouth, North Devon* (4), by F. W. Watts, promises well, but wants breadth and harmony: a large subject called *Moel Shabod, North Wales* (72), by J. Bell, though intended to convey some sentiment of grandeur with it, as representing the birthplace of Llewellyn, presents only a wild and distorted mass of objects untrue to nature. A group, called *Boats on the Medway, Calm* (191), by M. E. Colman, deserves notice for its clear and firm though somewhat large style. Mr. W. Melby's *African Coast* (365) is an elegant and satisfactory piece of painting; and we enumerate with pleasure Mr. S. Stewart's *Hop-picking* (418), Mr. Soper's view *From Capel Curig* (494), and Mr. J. H. Huntington's *Cave Mountain, Belfast, Ireland* (459).

To observe upon errors and failures would be an easy but less agreeable task; but instances like that of the bathers dressing in the foreground of *Bulwerhythe Sands* (513), by T. S. Raven, and the mishapen terrier-like rabbit in the *At Home* (356), by A. T. Stark, can scarcely escape reprobation.

Among the fruit pictures Mr. Lance's superiority is still undisputed; the splendid finish of the *Fruit* (180) is unrivalled; the group (497) fully deserves its prominent position; and those numbered (218) and (30) are scarcely inferior.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

We announced last week that a formal notification had been made to the Academy of Sciences of Paris, to the effect that a French chemist, M. Sainte Claire Deville, had succeeded in discovering the means of producing metal from clay. The last number of the *Comptes Rendus* of the Academy contains a brief abstract of the communication made on this important subject. It does not perhaps altogether warrant the flourish of trumpets with which it was announced, and the enthusiasm

with which it was greeted: but nevertheless it encourages the hope that the great scientific problem, propounded by Sir Humphrey Davy, and other distinguished savants, of making clay yield metal, is in a fair way of solution. The following is a translation of the paper in the *Comptes Rendus*: "It is known that M. Wohler has obtained aluminium in a state of powder, by treating its chloruret by potassium. In modifying in a proper way the process of that gentleman, we may regulate the decomposition of the chloruret of aluminium in such a manner as to produce an incandescence sufficient to cause the particles of this metal to agglomerate into globules. If the mass composed of the metal, and of the chloruret of sodium (it is better to employ sodium) be taken, and if it be heated in a porcelain crucible to a red heat, the excess of the chloruret of aluminium becomes disengaged, and there remains a saline mass of acid reaction, in the midst of which there are globules more or less large of perfectly pure aluminium. This metal is as white as silver, and is malleable and ductile in the highest degree. However, when it is wrought it resists strongly, and it may be supposed that its tenacity approaches that of iron. It may be hardened by hammering, and the hammering restores its smoothness. Its point of fusion is but little different from the point of fusion of silver. Its density is 2.56. It may be melted and cast in the open air, without its sensibly oxidising. It is a good conductor of heat. Aluminium is completely unchangeable by dry or damp air: it does not become dull, but remains brilliant by the side of zinc and tin freshly cut, which lose their brilliancy. It is insensible to the action of sulphuretted hydrogen. Cold water does not affect it; boiling water does not tarnish it. Nitric acid, whether weak or concentrated, and weak sulphuric acid, employed cold, do not act upon it. Its veritable dissolvent is chlorohydric acid: it then disengages hydrogen, and a sesquichloruret of aluminium becomes formed. Heated to redness in gaseous chlorohydric acid it produces a dry and volatile sesquichloruret of aluminium. It will be understood that a metal white and unchangeable as silver, which does not blacken in the air, which is fusible, ductile, and tenacious, and which presents the singular property of being lighter than glass, would be of great utility if it were possible to obtain it easily. If we consider, besides, that this metal exists in large proportions in nature, and that its ore is clay, we must wish to see it become of common use. I have every reason to believe that this may be the case, for the chloruret of aluminium is decomposed with remarkable facility at a high temperature by common metals, and a reaction of this nature which I am experimenting at this moment on a larger scale than a simple experiment in a laboratory will solve the question in a practical point of view. M. de Senarmont having procured me a sufficient quantity of the zircon of Espailly, I shall, aided by the researches of M. Delvay, of the Ecole Normale, on glucina, soon be able to submit to the Academy general results on the metals of earths, and on the rank of their chemical combinations in the series of metallic matters."

Mr. Edmonds's very choice cabinet of gold coins was disposed of by auction, at the rooms of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson, last week. Some very beautiful examples of the minute coins of Cyzicus, in Mysia, brought from one guinea to twenty-seven shillings each. A gold coin of Syracuse, bearing the head of Apollo, reverse the head of Diana, realized 14*l.* An exquisite specimen of Tarentum, in Calabria, a female head between three dolphins, brought 14*l.* 5*s.* The rare gold stater of Athens, 26*l.*; specimens of the Persian daric, 5*l.* 10*s.*; a coin of Philip of Macedon, of the usual type, but in a wonderful state of preservation, brought 6*l.*; other specimens, of the same type, 1*l.* 5*s.* to 1*l.* 17*s.* A coin of Lysimachus, very fine, 10*l.* 5*s.*; Ptolemy Soter, 7*l.* 6*s.* The beautiful coin of Ptolemy Soter and Berenice, reverse, the heads of Ptolemy Lathyrus and Arsinoë, in beautiful condition, 13 guineas; Ptolemy Lathyrus, very fine, realized the same

sum. Arsinoë, veiled head, in the finest state, 11*l.* 5*s.* Mithridates, King of Pontus, with very fine portrait of that distinguished hero, brought 60*l.* It was bought by Mr. Edmonds, some years ago, for 115*l.*! A coin of Cunobeline, one of the commonest types, but in very fine state, 10*l.*; and a very fine drachma, in silver, of Antiochus Epiphanes, 4*l.* 6*s.* There were a few lots of Roman imperial gold, which, on account of their beautiful condition, realized high prices: a Commodus brought 14 guineas; a Severus, with the busts of Domna and her sons, 15*l.*; Severus and Caracalla, 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Pertinax, 7*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* Among the English gold may be noticed the George Noble of Henry VIII., which was knocked down at 13*l.* 15*s.*, and the sovereign of the same monarch, at 24*l.* The double sovereign of Edward VI. brought 45*l.* 10*s.* The fifty-shilling piece of Cromwell, by the inimitable Simon, brought 67*l.*, and a second example, 49*l.* 10*s.*; both were in the finest possible condition. The twenty-shilling piece, or milled "Broad," of the Usurper, brought 11*l.* 10*s.*; another example, 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; and the piece for ten shillings, with plain edge, 30*l.*

Mr. David Vedder, a Scottish literary man of some reputation, died at Edinburgh on the 11th instant. A native of the Orkneys, he published a volume of 'Oradian Sketches,' in prose and verse, which deservedly attracted notice. Other poems, chiefly on Scottish historical subjects, had previously appeared, the first of which was entitled 'The Covenanters' Communion.' In 1842, a collected edition of his 'Poems, Legendary, Lyrical, and Descriptive,' was published, very miscellaneous in their subjects and style. With George Thomson, the friend of Burns, Mr. Vedder was associated in preparing the last volumes of the 'National Musical Miscellany,' which forms so valuable a record of Scottish song. Some of Mr. Vedder's own contributions are of high merit. The latest literary work with which he was engaged was a translation of the story of 'Reynard the Fox,' reviewed by us in the *Literary Gazette*, 1852, p. 789, which we then pronounced by far the best English version of the famous story. Mr. Vedder died at the age of 63. He was well known to most of the literary notables of the north during the last thirty years, and was justly esteemed as a man of genius and worth.

It is said that memorials have been presented to the Treasury, both by the Society of Antiquaries, and by the Council of the Archaeological Institute, praying that a sum of money may be granted for the purchase of the Faussett collection of Anglo-Saxon antiquities. It is to be hoped that these representations may have their due weight, and that this desirable collection may in the end be secured for the nation. We hear that Lord Londesborough has offered to purchase the entire collection at the price at which it was valued. His Lordship, from the experience he has had in researches among the tumuli of East Kent, is well qualified to form a proper estimate of its value. Should these objects become the property of Lord Londesborough, we have the best assurance that they will be made accessible to all inquiring antiquaries.

The literary treaty recently concluded between France and Spain has just been formally promulgated by the French Emperor. It gives full protection in France and Spain to authors of books, plays, musical compositions, pictures, designs, engravings, lithographs, sculpture, geographical maps, and other similar productions; the protection to last not only all the lives of the authors, but twenty years after their death, if they leave direct heirs, and ten years if they have only collateral heirs. Protection is also extended to translations, and authors may reserve to themselves for five years the right of translating their works. But imitations of works are to be tolerated, provided they be not made with the evident intention of pirating the originals.

Professor Blackie, of Edinburgh, has been combating the alleged heresies and paradoxes, delivered in that city by Mr. Ruskin in his recent course of lectures before the Philosophical Associa-

tion. Mr. Blackie read a paper, on "Mr. Ruskin and Greek Architecture," before the Architectural Institute, in which the excessive laudation of Gothic, at the expense of Greek architecture, was censured, the beauty and effects of the two styles not being subjects of comparison. Mr. Ruskin's theory about religious faith being necessary for high art, was also shown to be fanciful, some of the noblest works being by sceptics, while men of the noblest faith and truest piety, such as the Covenanters, abhorred every idea of the fine arts. Professor Blackie and Mr. Ruskin are both enthusiasts in their way, and, by their earnest advocacy of their extreme views, they will at least gain more general attention to questions of art, in connexion with history, literature, and taste. In the matter of Grecian and Gothic architecture the learned Hellenic Professor uses language of great discretion and moderation, compared with that of Mr. Ruskin. There are some admirable remarks on this subject in Hugh Miller's "First Impressions of England," in contrasting St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey.

On Tuesday evening, the 21st, the Rev. Dr. Candlish, of Edinburgh, is to deliver a lecture, in Exeter Hall, on 'Maurice's Theological Essays.' We believe that Dr. Candlish considers Professor Maurice to have been hardly dealt with personally, by the authorities of King's College, but is prepared to controvert his tenets. From a lecturer of intellect so subtle, and logic so clear and ingenious, may be expected a philosophical and eloquent statement of the metaphysical and theological questions under dispute.

Father Gavazzi gave a lecture at Exeter Hall, on Thursday evening, 'On the condition and prospects of Popery in America.' Of his own labours and adventures, as well as of the religious aspect of affairs in the new world, the eloquent speaker gave a striking and interesting account. Father Gavazzi has now acquired considerable mastery over our language, and though his oratory has not the same rhetorical animation that appeared when he first spoke as an Italian political exile, the fuller knowledge and sounder views of religious truth render his orations now far more solid and impressive.

Dr. Bowring, Governor of Hongkong and Superintendent of British trade in China, has received the honour of knighthood, at an audience with the Queen, previous to his return to the East. During his stay in this country Sir John Bowring has given valuable assistance in the arrangements for introducing the decimal system, and in other matters of commercial interest.

Sir David Brewster has been elected one of the twelve members of the Italian Society of Sciences of Modena, in succession to the late M. Arago. The election is peculiarly honourable to Sir David, as he was put in competition with such distinguished savants as Regnault and Geoffroy St. Hilaire of France, M. Leibig, the German chemist, and M. Struve, the astronomer of St. Petersburg.

German newspapers announce the death of Dr. Petersen, Director of the Observatory of Altona; and Italian journals of Signor Leizatti, of Padua, who, though very young, was distinguished as a linguist, and as the author of publications of merit on the Assyrian inscriptions of Persepolis, and on the Israelite peoples in central Africa.

The remains of a Roman camp are now being explored near Saalberg, in the duchy of Nassau. They are 280 yards long by 180 wide, and are somewhat rectangular in form. They will, it is expected, constitute one of the most curious monuments of the old Romans to be found in Germany.

The Rev. Thomas Jarratt, the Professor of Arabic, has been appointed Regius Professor of Hebrew at Cambridge.

Mr. Layard has been elected a Corresponding Member of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres of Paris.

A grand musical event was to 'come off' on Thursday night, at Paris, an event which will excite interest wherever music is cultivated—the production of a new opera by the illustrious Meyerbeer.

We have of course not yet had time to receive any account of the manner in which this great work was received; but we are assured by our correspondent, who was present at the general rehearsal which took place on Tuesday night, that it is in every respect worthy of the genius of the composer of *Robert le Diable*, the *Huguenots*, and the *Prophet*. It is called the *Northern Star*, and is, contrary to most of the works by which Meyerbeer has gained his renown, of a comic character. It contains nineteen morceaux, three or four of which are drawn from the composer's *Camp of Silesia*, which has been performed in Germany, but is unknown in Paris. It also contains a "sacred march," which is a skilful adaptation, with embellishments, of a march long popular in Germany. The libretto is from the facile and elegant pen of Scribe. It is at the Opéra Comique that the opera has been produced, and many of the best of the excellent *troupe* of that house have been cast for it—namely, Bataille, Mockler, Hermann Leon, Jourdan, Delaunoy, Regnier, Nathan; Mdles. Caroline Duprez, Lefebvre, Lemerrier, and Decroix. Our readers know that new operas and plays of any importance are considered almost matters of State in Paris, and generally give rise to difficulties of some kind or other which require the intervention of the government. The *Northern Star*, as was natural, has not escaped being elevated into the dignity of a Cabinet question. The scene of it is laid in Russia, in the time of Catherine, and the Russians are represented in an advantageous light. Now, in presence of the impending war, the theatrical censors were shocked at the idea of allowing Cossacks to play the *beau rôle* on a French stage, and they proposed nothing less than the suspension of the piece, to afford time for a new libretto to be written. But Meyerbeer energetically protested against having his music mutilated, by adaptation to a new 'poem'; and the manager of the theatre humbly represented that he had incurred vast expense in getting up the piece, all of which would go for nothing in the event of delay. The Minister of the Interior was accordingly appealed to, but not liking to take on himself the responsibility of deciding on such a grave matter, referred it to the Emperor. His Majesty has very wisely resolved that the opera shall be allowed to be performed as written and composed, and his judgment has been solemnly proclaimed to the world in the columns of the official *Moniteur*.

The late Paganini left a box containing a violin to the municipality of Genoa, his native place. For some reason not stated, the opening of this box was only proceeded to a few days ago; it took place, with a certain degree of solemnity, in the presence of the mayor, a deputation of the municipal counsel, and some of the local authorities. The violin contained in the box is of great power, and used to be called by Paganini his cannon.

General de Livoff, a musical composer of Russia, who has produced operas and other works which have been admired in Germany and Italy, has just obtained permission from the Emperor of Russia, to resign altogether his military functions, in order to devote himself exclusively to the musical art; and he has been appointed Director-General of the three musical theatres of St. Petersburg—namely, the Italian, the German, and the French.

Weber's *Preciosa* has been performed within the last few days, at the concerts of the Société de Sainte Cecile, at Paris. It was not previously known in that city, and being well executed excited great admiration.

Madame Tedesco has been singing in Brussels.

At the Haymarket has been produced a light piece, under the name of *Ranelagh*, adapted from a French vaudeville, *Un Mari qui se dérange*, which was acted some years since at the Gymnase, and at our St. James's Theatre. Mr. Palgrave Simpson has transferred the scene and time from the *Bal Masqué* of the Grand Opéra to Ranelagh Gardens in the time of George II. The piece is thoroughly French in its smartness, its ingenuity, and its principles. The adventures of a roving husband at

the masquerade, and of his wife, who comes masked in search of him, accompanied by the family physician, and of other friends, furnish the incidents of the plot. Some comical *contretemps* occur, but the main issue of the plot results in the reform of the rakish husband through the troubles he got into in his night's amusement. Mr. Vandenhoff as *Sir Robert Rovey*, and Miss Reynolds as *Lady Rovey*, acted with great liveliness, and Mr. Buckstone's representation of *Dr. Coddlelove* was ludicrously effective.

Miss Cushman's *Meg Merrilies* at the Haymarket is an astonishing performance of its kind—astonishing disguise, astonishing attitudes, and astonishing exertions, both of action and speech. But with the exception of the death scene, where the convulsions may have approached the violence of the imitation, the acting throughout is overstrained and unnatural. It is more like some gipsy *Madge Wildfire* than *Meg Merrilies*, who always knew what she was about, and had nothing of the hysterical wildness here represented. *Dandie Dinmont* could never have feared, nor little *Harry* ever have liked, *Meg* had she been like this. With a little more manifestation of mind, and a great deal less of bodily paroxysm, the character might be doubly effective. Mrs. Buckingham as *Julia Manring*, and Miss Harland as *Lucy Bertram*, sustain their parts admirably; and there is little to criticise in the other characters. Mr. Rogers's *Dandie Dinmont* is very good, and also Mr. Compton's *Dominie Sampson*, to those who have never seen real Scottish dominies or Liddesdale farmers. The piece is very well put on the stage, and, with Sir Henry Bishop's music, is likely to be popular. Miss Cushman's acting is of course the chief attraction, of which we sum up our opinion in the *Dominie's* exclamation—"Pro-digious!"

While lamenting the rarity of histrionic talent in the higher walks of the drama, we must not pass over the first appearance of a young and promising actor in one of Shakespeare's greatest characters, because the scene of his *début* has been the stage of a comparatively obscure theatre. On Friday last, Mr. Henry Nicholls, who has been well known to the public during the last few years by his excellent Shakspearian readings, performed the part of *Shylock* at the Soho Theatre, formerly known as Miss Kelly's, in character. The performance was one of great merit, the dialogue being well intoned, clearly and forcibly uttered, and never exaggerated in expression. The house was too small for Mr. Nicholls' voice, and the stage too small for action, but he performed the part with great effect, and the audience, a refined and critical one, were impressed and pleased with it throughout. The *Portia* of Miss Cleveland was also an able performance, gentle, lady-like, and intelligent.

A curious question has been raised in France, and is being discussed with some heat in the literary circles, *en attendant* the decision of it by the law courts: it is whether or not a dramatic author has the legal right to take the plots, incidents, or characters of an original novel or tale, and work them up into a play without the permission of the author! Heretofore this right has been claimed and acted on by dramatists without any scruple; but Alphonse Karr, a writer of great reputation, has just put forth a bitter complaint against some of them for making use of his works. The borrowing dramatist, in the name of the whole fraternity, have declined to make him any reparation, and accordingly Karr has determined to appeal to the law, not only to stop their depredations in future, but to make them pay him a portion—he modestly asks a tenth only—of what they have received for plays, the substance or idea of which has been borrowed from his writings.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

ASTRONOMICAL. — December 9th. — G. B. Airy, Esq., in the chair. 1. 'Extracts of a Letter from Professor C. Piazzi Smyth relative to Cometary Physics and to the Rating of Chronometers by Lunars.' It is generally believed that the tails of comets are only put on near

the perihelion point of their orbits; that they are produced by the intensity of the sun's rays there, and are dissipated on either side. Now I maintain that this is the reverse of what actually takes place. The comets have all the particles of their mass, whether tail, body, coma, &c., always with them; though in very different states of concentration at different times: and this it is which, combined with the greater or less intensity of solar illumination, according to their distance from the sun, and the greater or less angle under which they may be seen by reason of proximity to the earth, causes the variations in observed appearance. Moreover, it is now found that all comets, large and small, invariably become not only smaller, but more compressed and concentrated, as they approach the sun; and so far from a dissipation of solid matter, there is a bringing together of it, and a consequent brightening. The tail, indeed, shuts up like a many-draw telescope as it nears the perihelion, and opens out again as it leaves it. The amount of such concentration appears to vary in a proportion not yet accurately ascertained with the length of the radius vector or distance of the comet from the sun. So that, with such comets as Encke's and Biela's, where the difference of perihelion and aphelion distances is not very great, the amount of concentration is never considerable, and they are never seen but as faint, vaporous, telescopic bodies. But when the aphelion distance is very great, and the perihelion distance very small, as with the comet of 1843, and to a much less extent with the third one of 1853, then so great a concentration occurs, there is such a bringing together of finely divided matter, that, though otherwise invisible, it is now able to reflect the sun's rays so strongly as to become abundantly apparent to the naked eye in the evening, and finally, at the perihelion passage itself, for a short time even in open daylight. I may further remark that, in consequence of the concentration of matter which ensues as the comet approaches the perihelion, much confusion arises from speaking of the length of a comet's tail without a qualifying note of the part of the comet's orbit at the time. The same reasoning applies to every other part of the comet, for it is all vaporous but the nucleoid centre. Here, if anywhere, is the solid body, but it is infinitely small. The old writers do, indeed, talk of very large nuclei in former comets, and that of the present one has been described to have been, on August 27, upwards of 9000 miles in diameter, or enough to revive the old fears lest it should come in contact with the earth and break it to pieces. But that was not the nucleus, it was only the head round about it, that head being composed of the thinnest and lightest of conceivable vapour, merely rendered apparent there by the particles being brought very close together, and the whole so near the sun as to be lighted up by a more than ordinary blaze of light, and then to shine forth like a luminous object, as a thin cirrus cloud so often does when seen in the neighbourhood of the solar orb. Exactly the same appearance was observed at the similar part of its orbit in the great comet of 1843, when everything being on so much larger a scale, its internal economy could be better studied, and a powerful reflecting telescope actually showed the transparency, exhibited stars shining freely through that which persons with smaller telescopes were calling the solid nucleus. Day by day, too, as the comet left the perihelion, the once solid-looking head expanded and enlarged, and its outline became indistinct, and the whole was at length lost to all view, from being so rarified as neither to be able to reflect back any of the rays of the sun, nor to stop that coming through it from the smallest of the stars in front of which it passed.

As to the difference between the results of different lunars, Captain Toynbee should be advised of the probability of its arising from errors of the Tables; i.e. of the moon's place in the 'Nautical Almanac.' For this amounts, in some parts of a month, to 15" or 20"; and as it varies with opposite signs throughout the month, that is a reason why he finds lunars a fortnight apart, taken together, give a better result than two taken on following days. Again, if he can show that sensible errors to sailors

arise from the errors of the Lunar Tables in places in the 'Nautical Almanac,' it will be a very strong argument for new Lunar Tables being made, based on all the recomputed Greenwich Observations, including the discoveries of Hansen, Adams, and others. Further, he should never depend on the 'Nautical Almanac' or anything else for the diameter of any heavenly body, but measure it for himself with his own instruments, and, comparing the result with the 'Nautical Almanac' for the time, get the correction due to that cause: and always apply this correction in any case wherein the 'Nautical Almanac' value must be used, as when the moon is near conjunction.

2. 'Remarks by Mr. Carrington on presenting to the Society printed Copies of Nine Circumpolar Charts.' I have the pleasure this evening to present to the Society printed copies of nine draft maps, on a scale of an inch and a half to the degree, containing all the stars above the eleventh magnitude, and many of the eleventh within 9° of the north pole. These maps are the result of a first examination of the region I have selected for observation, and were formed principally with the object of making a provisional catalogue for my own use, during the second stage of accurate observation on the meridian. They have been entirely executed with my 4½ foot equatorial, described in the last 'Monthly Notice.' The process followed in their construction was first to zone over the region in two broad zones, of which the first extended from 4° to 94° N.P.D., and the second from 5° above to 5° below pole. From March 25th to May 20th of the present year, twenty zones were thus observed, which, when reduced and cleared of duplicates, yielded about 2000 net points for a foundation for the maps. The degree of accuracy attained was quite sufficient for the purpose. The stage of filling in was then proceeded with, and terminated on Nov. 8th. In each case a skeleton map was first prepared of the stars observed in the zones, and then filled in by estimation, considerable pains being taken to get satisfactory alienations. The map was then copied on a glass disc, through which the light of the sun was made to pass; and the copy was again compared with the heavens, a general revision and the adjustment of the relative magnitudes being chiefly attended to. It is the date of this second comparison which is given on the maps. From this corrected copy two copies were taken; one in common ink for my final standard copy, and one in anastatic ink for transfer by the printer, whose proofs were compared with and corrected by my standard copy. My printer was Mr. Rudolph Appel, of No. 42, Gerrard-street, Soho, and his charge for fifty copies of the same map, including cost of transfer and paper, twelve shillings. Believing that the anastatic process of printing has not been previously applied to the ready and cheap production of star maps, I beg to call attention to these maps, as specimens of what may be done, and to add at the same time that the excellence of the result increases with the artistic skill of the author. I particularly wish it to be understood that I regard the present maps as imperfect, and merely as drafts, although tolerably complete as maps go, and well filled in. Any one who has worked on a map will have found, that to produce one which shall be satisfactory as a picture to the eye of another observer using a different telescope, it is very necessary for him to go over his map at different times, using different apertures. This has not, at present, been done for these maps. The sensible presence of twilight during the months of June and July has been another source of imperfection. For, as the nine maps are very nearly of equal spherical area, they ought to be very accurate gauges of the polar region; but, owing to the cause named, and to the effect of thin fog on every night given to map No. 3, this relation is nullified for the present. I have distinguished by wings all those stars which are stated by Argelander in his 'Uran. Nova' to be visible to the naked eye; by the letter D all those stars which, under a power of twenty-eight, appeared to consist of two components, too close to be represented together on

the map; and by the letter N all places which appeared nebulous, and at which I should halt in sweeping for comets, although it is very possible that some of them may be clusters easily resolvable under moderate powers. Other stars I have in all cases distinguished by dots of different sizes; a method of representing magnitudes which, as more pictorial, I prefer to any other. I may mention, in conclusion, that during the formation of these maps, I was soon struck with the frequency with which little meteoric sparks passed my field of view, often leaving behind little trains of light, and that, finding it an almost constant phenomenon, I took to noting down their paths on my working-maps as I proceeded. In this way I have collected forty-nine little paths of very various directions, but among which one may, perhaps, trace the existence of a little shoal crossing the pole in lines generally parallel to the meridian from one hour to thirteen hours R.A. On the second night of the Laurentius stream this year, there was a marked increase in the number seen; seven were marked down, while others flew through the field too quickly to be caught. As I also perceived increased activity on several cold and windy nights, these minute telescopic meteors appear to consist of two classes, like their larger brethren, those of the naked eye, namely, one of a cosmical and one of an electrical origin.

SOCIETY OF ARTS. — February 1st. — Harry Chester, Esq., in the chair. At this meeting, the discussion of Mr. Webster's paper was resumed. Mr. C. Wordsworth agreed with Mr. Webster, and contended that Mr. Denison, in attacking property in invention, was attacking property in general, and combated the argument used by Mr. Denison, that copy-right and patent-right stood on different grounds. There was no analogy between what was termed the monopoly of a patent and that of a sole mill. He concluded by urging the Society to take up the question of improving the present laws relating to patents, and to protection to matters of art. Mr. Winkworth felt a difficulty in addressing a meeting when he felt he was in a very small minority, and contended that protection by patent was not warranted on any principles of the origin of property, and believed that talent needs no such protection, and would flourish better without it. Mr. H. Cole, C.B., applied himself to the principles of property, contending that they applied not only to material objects, but to the results of intellectual labour. He argued that, in denying rights to the labour of the intellect, the foundation of all property was attacked, and that such a doctrine was, in fact, Socialism. Mr. Steere asserted that patents were monopolies, and that all monopolies were bad. Still, if we could not get rid of the Patent Laws, he urged that endeavours should be made to improve their working, more particularly in respect of the tribunal for trying disputed rights. Mr. Nesbit argued that there was a confusion of terms in using the word monopoly. Patents were no more monopolies than land or any other property was a monopoly in the hands of the owner. He advocated a preliminary examination before granting a patent. Dr. Caplin spoke with reference to the state of patent law in Belgium, contrasting it with the English law. Mr. Aston advocated strongly the justice of giving protection to inventors, instancing the fundamental law of the United States of America in favour of that view. He then gave the results of his experience of the working of the American patent law, and attributed the rapid development of industry there to a well-administered patent law. Mr. Stansbury, of the United States, spoke with reference to improvements necessary in the administration of the English law. Mr. Webster replied.

ANTIQUARIES. — Feb. 9th. — J. Bruce, Esq., Treasurer, in the chair. Mr. Edward Pretty exhibited some very beautiful drawings, executed by himself, of a number of relics of the Anglo-Saxon period,

found about thirty years since, by some labourers engaged in widening and repairing the road, on the line of the ancient Watling-street, about a mile from the town of Rugby. They consisted of urns, beads, fibulae, and a variety of personal ornaments, and implements, with the usual description of weapons characteristic of pagan internment. The Secretary communicated a transcript of a letter, written by the Countess of Pembroke to Captain Adam Baynes, in London. The letter is dated from Skipton Castle, a short time after the death of Cromwell, and it shows how jealously every act of the Royalists was regarded by their enemies at that period. The writer complains that the repairs she is making to her castle have attracted the attention and roused the suspicions of some of her ill-disposed neighbours, and protests that what she is doing is for no other purpose than the convenience of herself and household. She speaks of a letter enclosed to "the Lord Lambert," and exclaims very warmly against the unjust suspicions of her enemies. The conclusion of Sir Henry Ellis's transcript of instructions given by Mary and afterwards by Elizabeth, to the lord-lieutenants of counties; in the latter reign by Elizabeth, to the Earl of Bedford. These instructions are said to have originated in the ambiguous conduct of the French king, but were, in reality, a precautionary measure against the fleet of the King of Spain, which had to pass through the English Channel, on its way to the Low Countries.

R. S. LITERATURE.—Feb. 8th.—The Bishop of St. David's, V.P., in the chair. Mr. Davies read a paper, 'On the Rhythm or Metre to be found in the Books of the Old Testament, especially the Psalms—on *Selah*, its signification and uses.' Mr. Davies's object was to show that the Psalms of David, at all events, if not other parts of the sacred writings, were rhythmical, if not metrical—that the word *Selah*, which occurs so frequently in the Psalms, is always conformable to the rhythm established, and sometimes that it is necessary to the rhythm—and that it may in all cases be translated with the sense of 'for ever.' After noticing the various systems which have been propounded by Bishops Lowth and Jebb, and Mr. Greaves, Mr. Davies argued from the occurrence of rhythm, if not of metre, in many other ancient laws, in some Egyptian papyri, and in some Chinese writings, that the same fact might be discovered in the case of the Hebrew Scriptures, it not being likely that the Jews should have formed a case isolated from all nations preceding and following them. Mr. Davies then showed that the Psalms and many other writings were of the lyrical class, from a careful examination of the text of the first Psalm, the song of Miriam, the Tenth Commandment, and the first chapter of Lamentations, which, he contended, bore some resemblance to the rhythm of the choruses at the end of the Greek tragedies. Mr. Davies then showed that in many cases the parallelism of sense given in the English translation is at variance with the original: while the word *Selah*, agreeably with many of the old commentators, he considered might mean 'for ever'—believing that it should be so translated as to fill up the fullness of the sense.

CHEMICAL.—Jan. 16th.—Col. Philip Yorke, President, in the chair. Henry J. Smith, Esq., B.A., of Oxford; George Payne, Esq.; the Rev. John H. Molesworth; and Samuel Highley, Jun., Esq., were elected fellows. A paper from M. Charles Gerhardt, 'On some New Compounds of Salicyl,' was read, in which he developed certain theoretical views, founded on the fact that the salicylic ethers, although corresponding to neutral salicylates, are capable of uniting with bases, and forming well defined metallic salts, in which the ethers exhibit the character of true acids. Another paper was read, 'On Red Prussiate of Potash,' by Mr. William Wallace, treating of its oxidizing power, in the presence of an alkali, its solubility, at various temperatures, and the means of its valuation.

February 6th.—Col. Philip Yorke, President, in the chair. David Evans, Esq., Arthur W. Wills, Esq., and C. De Bussy, Esq., were elected fellows. Two papers were read, both with the view of extending our knowledge of the volatile bases of the ammonia type, lately brought into such prominence by the discoveries of Wurtz and Hofmann: the first was "On the Existence of Trimethylamine in the Brine of Salted Herrings," by Mr. Gersham Henry Winkles; and the second was "On the Action of Iodide of Ethyl on Toluidine," by Messrs. Reg. T. Morley and John S. Abel.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Monday.—Statistical, 8 p.m.—(On Agricultural Statistics by Samuel Paull, Esq.)
—Chemical, 8 p.m.
- Tuesday.—Linnean, 8 p.m.
—Horticultural, 3 p.m.
—Civil Engineers, 8 p.m.—(Discussion on the Principles and Construction of Locks, by Mr. A. C. Hobbs, Assoc. Inst. C.E., and, if time permits, Mr. Laforest's Description of Martin's Improved Jacquard Machine will be read.)
—Pathological, 8 p.m.
—Russell Institution, 8 p.m.—(Dr. Grant, F.R.S., on Paleozoology.)
—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Tyndall on Heat.)
- Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—(Dr. John Stenhouse, F.R.S., on the Deodorizing and Disinfecting Properties of Charcoal, with a description of a new Charcoal Respirator for purifying the air by filtration.)
—Geological, 8 p.m.—(1. On the Tertiary Formations of the Mayence Basin, by W. J. Hamilton, Esq., Sec. G.S.; 2. On the Gold-bearing district of the neighbourhood of Mount Alexander, Victoria, Australia, by G. Selwyn, Esq.)
—R. S. of Literature, 4½ p.m.
—Archæological Association, 8½ p.m.—(Mr. H. Syer Cuming on Stone Implements.)
- Thursday.—Royal, 8½ p.m.
—Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
—Numismatic, 7 p.m.
—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor Wharton Jones on Animal Physiology.)
- Friday.—Philological, 8 p.m.
—Royal Institution, 8½ p.m.—(H. Bence Jones, M.D., on the Acidity, Sweetness, and Strength of different Wines.)
- Saturday.—Medical, 8 p.m.—(J. B. Brown, Esq., on some Diseases of the Rectum resulting from certain conditions of the Uterus.)
—Botanic, 4 p.m.
—Royal Institution, 3 p.m.—(Professor W. A. Miller on the Chemistry of the Non-Metallic Elements.)

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Dresden, 12th February.

SINCE I last wrote to you Madame Goldschmidt has appeared twice in public, and each time to a crowded and enthusiastic audience; indeed the demand for tickets was much greater than the supply, and many who were anxious to hear this bewitching singer were obliged to stay at home, whilst many ladies who were fortunate enough to gain admittance were forced to content themselves with standing room.

The first of the two concerts was opened by a prologue spoken by one of the actors, and the performance of Beethoven's overture to *Egmont*, executed by the orchestra of the Theatre-royal, under the leadership of Capellmeister Reissiger. Madame Goldschmidt sang 'On mighty pens,' from Haydn's *Creation*, a rondo from Meyerbeer's 'Camp of Silesia,' a song by Mendelssohn, and a Norwegian 'Berglied,' in the first concert; and, in the second, 'Casta Diva,' from *Norma*, 'Glöcklein un Thale,' from Weber's *Euryanthe*, 'Non paventar,' from Mozart's 'Il flauto magico,' and a German and Norwegian song. I enumerate these more particularly to show to your musical readers the variety of the styles she selected, and I need only add that she was perfect in all: brilliant in Meyerbeer's rondo, full of deep feeling and expression in the 'Casta Diva,' showing the most exquisite pathos in Mendelssohn's 'Die Sterne schau'n in stiller Nacht,' and a simple but unsurpassable grace in the small Norwegian and German songs, she

combined all these excellences in the highest degree in the aria of the 'Queen of the Night,' a composition seldom heard in its integrity, perhaps never more perfectly sung, both as to execution and feeling, than it was my fortune to hear it last night.

At the first concert given this season at which Madame Goldschmidt sung, it was impossible to judge fairly of the condition of her voice; she was then suffering from hoarseness and a severe cold, and was evidently labouring under considerable illness; indeed, she had made an effort which very few artists would have done, or indeed could have ventured to do, rather than disappoint the public. The critics and 'dilettanti' charitably pronounced her voice to be gone, and her days of triumph to have passed away among the things that 'have been.' I never shared this opinion, but determined to suspend my judgment until I had had a fair opportunity of forming an impartial one; and the conclusion to which I have come, after having enjoyed frequent opportunities of hearing her since her arrival in Dresden, is, that her voice is as powerful, brilliant, and flexible, and as completely under command as it ever was.

That these two concerts have been given entirely for the benefit of charitable institutions, and that a third, with the same object in view, is announced for Tuesday next, in Leipzig, is, I think, a sufficient refutation of the calumny, which was some time ago spread abroad by the Berlin papers, and commented on in the pages of the *Literary Gazette*, that Jenny Lind since her marriage with Her Goldschmidt had considerably relaxed in her charities.

From Leipzig we hear that Fräulein Claus, now such a deserved favourite of the London public, had been playing at the Gervandhaus concerts. It was here in Germany that, in the year 1850, she made her *début*, and the astonishing improvement of this young 'artiste,' in the space of four years, was at once recognised by all those present who had heard her at her first performance. She had given, on her way to Leipzig, a concert at Bonn, which had been most brilliant and successful. Flotow's new opera, entitled *Rubczahl*, has been brought out at Berlin, and very much applauded; it is, however, I hear, inferior both to *Martina* and to *Stradella*. It has been produced at Frankfort, and conducted by the composer himself.

A magnificent concert has been given at Hamburg, in the large room of the Town-hall, on the occasion of the wreck of the ship *Marshall*. As soon as the news reached Hamburg of the destruction of the vessel and the loss of the greater part of her crew, a subscription was at once entered on, to raise a sum for the captain and the few survivors who had escaped with the loss of everything but the clothes they wore. One of the most brilliant concerts heard in Hamburg for a long time was given to aid the subscriptions. The great attraction of the evening was the singing of Frau Rottes, who had come from Hanover expressly for this purpose. A blind pianist, Herr Braun, executed some pieces with great beauty and accuracy. A large sum of money was the result of their benevolent exertion.

We have been enjoying here, these last few days, the very rare treat of seeing a picture by a modern artist of very great merit, indeed, according to my judgment, equal in conception and execution to almost any of the modern pictures I have seen in Germany. It is by Herr Gonne, the author of a picture called the *Convenienz Heirat*, which was noticed in the 'Literary Gazette' about a year ago. The picture of which I am now speaking is called *Bajazzo* (the Clown). He is represented sitting, plunged in sad and gloomy thoughts. His head rests on his right hand, the arm leaning on a rough wooden table; a dull, yellow light is cast from a small lantern on the clown's dress which he wears; the cap is stamped under his foot, and the left arm hangs lifeless and motionless over his large dog, who sits between his knees, looking up with an anxious and mournful expression into his master's face, inquiring the meaning of this deep dejection. The expression of Bajazzo's face is intensely melancholy, but full of thought and beauty. The execution

tion of the work is as fine as the conception. There are vigour and breadth in the handling that betray power, energy, and deep thought. Herr Gonne's mind has been filled with this subject for ten years, and in the course of last year he had nearly completed a picture of the same subject, but being dissatisfied with his own work, like a true artist he put the picture on one side, and began again, never resting till his work had attained something of the ideal he had set before him.

The funeral of Maximilian Korn, the most celebrated tragedian whom Austria has ever produced, was celebrated on the 29th of January, in the cathedral of Vienna. Every one distinguished for art and literature residing at Vienna was present, and Mozart's beautiful Requiem was performed by two hundred and fifty artists selected from the various theatres in Vienna.

Frau von Bock, known in England as Madame Schroeder Devrient, has consented to make one appearance in public at Berlin before her departure for Russia.

The subscriptions of many of the German Princes to the memorial to Tieck have been so considerable, that it is now in contemplation to erect a suitable monument to the great poet and novelist, instead of a simple tombstone, as was originally intended.

Professor Schaefer, the celebrated engraver of Frankfurt, is now occupied on an illustration, from a picture of Kaulbach's, to Shakspeare's *Tempest*. Kaulbach is going to illustrate all Shakspeare's plays with his pencil, and we are promised in a few weeks the first number, which is to contain Macbeth and the Witches, Lady Macbeth walking in her sleep, and Macbeth armed for the battle.

VARIETIES.

The Russians and Turks in 1828.—In the present state of public affairs, the following extract from a private letter, received during the last war between Russia and Turkey, may be read with interest. It was written by the late Dr. J. Cuthbert Clarke, at that time surgeon to the English Hospital at Smyrna:—"You will expect that I should say something of the Russian and Turkish war. Yet, although so comparatively near the seat of it, we know, I assure you, very little; that little, however, is in favour of the Turks, who have certainly so far had the best of it. The Russians hold them, as the rest of the world does, by far too cheap: they are a noble people, struggling manfully against Christian injustice and oppression. The Sultan has shown himself a man of distinguished ability and courage. He left Constantinople, attended by all the male population, a few days ago; when arrived at a certain distance, he halted, and, contrary to the custom of all his predecessors, harangued the multitude, and dismissed them to their employments, assuring them that he was now going to join his army, and to prove to them that he deserved the high station which the Most High had assigned him in this world. A gentleman who was present describes the scene as truly magnificent. In the meantime, all is peaceable and tranquil here. Not a look or gesture betrays the slightest incivility, and I believe that a traveller might traverse Asia Minor at this moment with much less molestation than he could our own country. I say nothing of warm-hearted Ireland. We meet Turks armed at all points at all hours of the day and night, in the most solitary mountain roads and most frequented places, and receive from them but one kind of treatment—the utmost forbearance and civility. The Pacha is one of the best men in any country, and the whole behaviour of these remarkable people appears to me to be exactly that kind of magnanimous fortitude and resolution under oppression and injustice which we are accustomed to applaud, though seldom to witness, amongst our Christian brethren. God send them good luck, as well as to all other unoffending people who interfere not in the affairs of others, and have the courage to oppose those who would dismember their country and religion on the pretence of amicable and Christianlike arrangements."

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	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 5 3	14 12 3
1000	23 0 0	6 18 0	16 2 0	16 2 0
35	1500	43 15 0	13 2 6	30 12 6
45	2500	80 11 8	24 3 6	56 8 2

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	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	0 18 2	0 19 2	1 0 3	1 1 5	1 2 8	1 18 2
30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 3
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	2 0 6	3 8 3

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	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
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1825	2000	770 9 9	2770 9 9
1828	3000	1038 2 4	4038 2 4

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